

Spy vs. spies Not Page One, Page 7	Nagasaki remembers World News, Page 4	Grobbelaar saved Sports, Page 9	Index Business 10 Crossword 11 Movies/TV 11 Opinion 6 Science 5 Sports 8
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Gov't: PA national service plan camouflage for draft

By JON IMMANUEL

The Palestinian Legislative Council yesterday proposed a national service law which would draft all high school graduates for one year's work in Palestinian public projects, including the police, but not for security-related service, the council speaker Ahmed Qurei said.

David Bar-Ilan, the prime minister's communications director, called the idea "a camouflage for openly setting up a draft for an army. The fact that a draft has been announced is a severe violation of the Oslo accords."

Qurei said the service could not include training in weapons, but it could include police work "in public order or traffic control, so long as this was not security work because we are tied to the Oslo agreement."

In the Oslo agreement, the number of security officers and civil police is strictly limited to 30,000, but most sources, including Palestinians, believe the number has far surpassed that.

Bar-Ilan said he did not believe the draft would be limited to civilian work. "These ostensible announcements have very little in common with the truth. Our experience is that when the worst is indicated it usually happens," he said.

Qurei said "it is just an idea and the legal committee has been recommended to study it." The purpose of the proposal, he said, was to provide work for graduates and would include service in government services, agriculture and industry.

Azmi Shuabli, the initiator of the proposal, said it could "include work in hospitals and road construction."

He said the motivation behind the draft was not to establish an army but to provide jobs and develop the Palestinian economy.

In a street demonstration in Nablus yesterday, some 2,000 marched, including a group of uniformed youths carrying toy rifles on their shoulders, and women dressed in white carrying placards saying "we want peace."

Nablus has been opened by the IDF as a part of a series of measures to ease the closure.

In the wake of the closure, including the "inner closure" imposed on Palestinian towns after the Mahaneh Yehuda suicide bombings on July 30, the legislative council meeting in Ramallah passed a series of resolutions both condemning the closure and condemning terrorism.

"It is the first time that the council,

in the name of the Palestinian people, condemned terrorism from wherever it comes, including in Jerusalem, and sent its appreciation to the peace camp. It also called for an Arab summit meeting to reconsider normalization with Israel and its participation in an economic conference in Doha," Qurei said.

Palestinians have been embittered by the closure, and the national service proposal comes after PA Chairman Yasser Arafat made a speech to Fatah leaders last week telling Palestinians "to prepare for the biggest battle yet... loyal to the

oath we took since we fired our first bullet." He denied this was a call to armed struggle, saying it was a call to withstand the closure that he said was an Israeli declaration of war.

Arafat said Friday he thought the Palestinians were justified in considering the closure a declaration of war because Israeli officials themselves have told the Palestinian Authority the Mahaneh Yehuda bombers came from abroad. Israeli security officials told us that they came from abroad," Arafat told Channel 1.

Cabinet Secretary Dan Naveh said no Israeli intelligence sources said this "because the investigation has not been completed. In any case the infrastructure of the terrorist groups, of Hamas and Islamic Jihad, is here and the root of the problem is that hundreds of Hamas and Islamic Jihad terrorists are walking free."

Naveh also denied another assertion by Arafat that Israel called off three-way security cooperation involving the US three weeks before the bombing. "It was very strange. I was amazed by that," said Arafat.

Naveh responded that "Israel certainly accepts the Americans as part of the security meetings between ourselves and the Palestinians, in contrast to what was said last night, but that does not release the Palestinians from their obligation to continuous two-sided security cooperation with Israel."

Arafat also denied that his senior police chief, Brig. Ghazi Jabali, had been involved in ordering an attack on settlers near Nablus, an order, which by implication, he said, must have come from Arafat himself. "Am I an idiot? I am not insane. I am one of the world's leaders," he said.

Arafat said he was doing the maximum to prevent terrorism and had not released terrorists from prison, despite Israeli claims to the contrary. He told his cabinet in Ramallah Friday, and he told the legislative council yesterday, Palestinian security forces found a new bomb factory in Kalkilya, close to Kfar Sava, similar to the one found in Beit Sahur last month. He provided no details.

In his TV interview, Arafat addressed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu: "I want to ask him a question, Netanyahu, who considers himself a politician. A whole nation of three million people - doesn't he think that this closure is going to have an effect on them? Aren't all these policies encouragement to the extremist forces?"

Sveve Rodan and Mohammed Najib contributed to this report.

Arafat plans summit with Saddam, Page 2

consider normalization with Israel and its participation in an economic conference in Doha," Qurei said.

Ross to meet PM, Arafat today

By JAY BUSHINSKY

US special envoy Dennis Ross is expected to start his bid to upgrade the Palestinian Authority's effort to smash terrorist cells in the West Bank and Gaza Strip by conferring with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu before this morning's cabinet session and then traveling to Gaza for talks with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The American diplomat arrived yesterday, along with a support staff consisting of the State Department's Aaron Miller and the National Security Council's Bruce Reidel. US Ambassador Martin Indyk will work with the team throughout its stay.

Netanyahu will be taking time out from his talks with Ross on Wednesday to visit Amman to brief King Hussein on his talks with the US envoy.

Ross's first day in Israel is expected to include a meeting in Caesarea with President Ezer Weizman, whose planned visit to Washington evidently is part of the newly reactivated American peace initiative.

The primary purpose of Ambassador Ross's visit will be to deal with the security dimensions of the current crisis. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said in her first major speech on the Middle East since taking office, she was speaking to the National Press Club in Washington last Wednesday.

Albright's projected trip to the Middle East at the end of this month depends on the success of Ross's attempt to nudge Israel and the PA back to the negotiating table by reconciling their differences over security and settlements.

Netanyahu's communications director, David Bar-Ilan, said he hoped Ross "will be effective in pushing the PA to do what we have been asking it to do for the past four years: fight terrorism."



Dennis Ross
(Isaac Harari)



Hizbullah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah adjusts his cloak during a press conference Friday in a Beirut suburb. Nasrallah claimed Hizbullah was not responsible for Friday's Katyusha rocket attack on Kiryat Shmona.

IAF retaliates for rocketing of K. Shmona

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

Israel Air Force planes struck twice in Lebanon over the weekend in retaliation for the Katyusha rocket attack on Kiryat Shmona on Friday morning. Five persons were reported killed in the air strikes.

It was the first time Katyushas

"This is a new tactic of Hizbullah's, to ignore the attacks it carries out," said a Northern Command source. "It's a new policy of cowards who refuse to accept responsibility, but all the signs in the field indicate that we are talking about a Hizbullah action."

General Command at Na'ameh, south of Beirut. Channel 1 reported four people killed in that attack. Observers said the strikes were meant to send a message to the Lebanese government and Syria to put the brakes on Hizbullah.

Two Katyushas fell on Kiryat

Israeli Arab delegation in Syria, Page 12

had hit Kiryat Shmona since the understandings reached 15 months ago that ended the cross-border fighting in Operation Grapes of Wrath. The understandings forbid attacks against civilian targets. One Kiryat Shmona resident was lightly injured by flying glass and two others were treated for shock.

At a press conference on Friday, Hizbullah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah denied that his organization was responsible for the Katyusha attack. He warned that Hizbullah might resume cross-border attacks if last year's pact continued to unravel.

But the IDF said the Katyushas were fired from the areas of Barasheet and Shakra, both centers of Hizbullah activity. Hizbullah leaders had been threatening for several days to retaliate for the killing of two commanders and three other gunmen in an IDF action last Monday.

Friendly fire wounds 2 soldiers

Two IDF soldiers were wounded by friendly fire late Friday night, when a force on patrol identified two suspicious figures some distance away in the dark and some members of the force opened fire, accidentally hitting their comrades.

One soldier is in critical condition with a head wound, while the other suffered moderate wounds to his back and leg. Both were hospitalized in Rambam Hospital in Haifa.

Channel 1 reported that two Hizbullah gunmen fled the scene after the incident, which took place near Karkum in the western sector of the security zone. OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine ordered an investigation.

According to Channel 1, the force was organized in a semicircle when the gunmen were spotted several dozen meters behind the soldiers on the rear end of the semicircle. Soldiers on the front end of the semicircle, facing the gunmen, opened fire, hitting their comrades.

This was the seventh incident of casualties from friendly fire in the past five years. Seven soldiers were killed and five wounded in the earlier accidents.

(Hina)

Cabinet to discuss '98 budget

By DAVID HARRIS

Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman is to present the cabinet with a proposal today for a 1998 state budget of NIS 164.4 billion, according to an advanced copy of the plan. The Treasury also will recommend a target of collecting NIS 156.8b. in revenues. These two key budgetary forecasts mean the state budget deficit, excluding credit, would be 2.4 percent of gross domestic product.

Neeman also will tell the cabinet that next year's inflation target will remain at its current level of 7-10%. This decision, taken after consultation with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, is in direct contradiction of the Bank of Israel's request to reduce the target rate to 6-9%, in accordance with the government goal of 4% inflation by 2001. The plan to reduce the budget deficit means a real terms budget cut of NIS 2.5-3b. from the 1998 budget.

The Treasury document explains the budget and planned deficit as part of the government's plan to restimulate economic growth, particularly in the private sector. In order to achieve this aim there must be a graduated reduction in the size of the deficit as a percentage of GDP, a cut in public sector spending and a reduction of the tax burden, or at least no increase in it. If it becomes apparent that any of the key macroeconomic goals are not being met, Neeman will call for an urgent meeting of the government to readress its priorities, the document concludes.

Later today the Knesset Finance Committee will debate and vote on the additional NIS 800 million budget cut for 1997.

Among those already expressing opposition to the cuts are Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, Education Minister Zeev Elkin, Labor Minister Ehud Barak and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai.

In today's cabinet session ministers also will be told by the Treasury officials that growth will only reach 3.3-5% next year, with unemployment likely to peak at 7.9%, or some 200,000 people. These and other macroeconomic forecasts for the period 1998-2000 will be presented in a document prepared by the Treasury.

In order to achieve this limited growth, compared to annual rates of over 6% in the early '90s, the Treasury will also ask ministers to approve about 100 structural changes in the economy aimed at liberalizing, demonopolizing and reducing state involvement in the economy. It is still unclear when the ministers will vote on any of the proposals today or whether they will wait until the final budget decision set for August 31 and September 1.

The Treasury is threatening to call an open-ended general strike at the weekend if the government approves the plan for structural changes in the economy today. The strike would include all workers' unions.

Labor Party whip MK Rafan Cohen yesterday issued a statement sharply criticizing the government's budgetary policy.

"This is a government in which growth is zero, activity is zero and the treatment of poorer layers of society is zero squared," Cohen said. "Nothing has been implemented from all the government's grandiose plans for structural change."

Soldier-prisoners take nine wardens hostage

Soldiers imprisoned in IDF prison No. 6 revolted yesterday afternoon, taking over one of the wings and capturing nine wardens to protest conditions in their ward, the ward for difficult prisoners.

Deputy OC Manpower Brig.-Gen. On Regonis and Military Police were still negotiating with the prisoners last night and a police anti-terror unit, ambulances and fire trucks were on call outside the prison gates.

The prisoners, armed with knives and flammable substances, threatened to commit suicide if the anti-terror unit attempted to enter the section of the prison in which they had barricaded themselves.

Officials said they would only send in the anti-terror unit if they feared the hostages would be harmed.

By evening, the prisoners

released four of the wardens, one of whom was lightly injured.

Larissa Pitkovski, whose son Alexei has been imprisoned for over two weeks for desertion, said her son telephoned her yesterday afternoon and asked her to contact the media to explain their situation.

"They took this action because of the bad relations inside the prison walls. He told me that for over a week he had been in chains for 24 hours a day. He said I should contact the media to publicize their claims regarding the bad conditions, which they say is the only reason for their action."

Meanwhile, parents of the wardens gathered outside the prison gates.

The mother of one hostage said she wasn't surprised by the incident.

(Hina)

WORLDVIEW

Aspirin turns 100

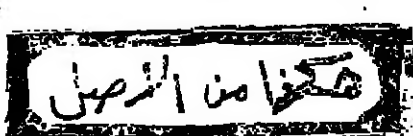
Washington (Washington Post) - It was 100 years ago - Aug. 10, 1897 - that a 29-year-old German chemist named Felix Hoffman figured out how to chemically alter salicylic acid, an age-old pain-relief compound extracted from willow bark, so it would be kinder to the stomach. By adding one acetyl molecule to salicylic acid, he launched a new medicine that would change millions of lives.

Hoffman had a professional and a personal interest in improving salicylic acid, which, in its pure form, is very irritating to the stomach. In those days, chemists generally mixed a compound of sodium salicylic acid, which helped mute some of the gastric side effects but was still very irritating.

See ASPirin, Page 4



509007



Arafat trying to organize summit with Saddam

By Jay Bushinsky

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat has been trying to organize an Arab summit conference with Iraq's President Saddam Hussein as a key participant, Arab affairs experts said yesterday.

A principal theme would reportedly be Israel's alleged attempt to scuttle the Middle East peace process.

Arafat's initiative could forge an anti-Israeli coalition and bring Syria and Iraq into the same camp, possibly ending the Baghdad regime's

political isolation in the Arab world.

Experts said that such a summit proposal, being worked on also by Abu Dhabi Sultan Zaid bin-Sultan, may also be "a gimmick" meant to scare Israel.

Egypt would be expected to oppose such a summit, making it unlikely it could take place, they said.

An American diplomatic source expressed strong reservations about the idea of inviting the Iraqi ruler to a multinational gathering. "The U.S. view of Saddam Hussein is well known," he said.

Arafat is believed to have discussed the summit at a meeting in Amman last week with Iraq's ambassador to Jordan, Nuri Weyes.

According to informed sources, Weyes was recently nominated as honorary president of the diplomatic corps based in Jordan, but declined because Israeli Ambassador Oded Eran is a member.

One obstacle in Arafat's path would be the prospect of a Karwaite boycott of a summit if Saddam attended, experts said. However, Jordan, Algeria, Libya and several Gulf emirates would be expected to attend if invited.



Gregory Lerner at the Supreme Court hearing on Friday.

(Brian Henrich)

Closures eased on some towns

By Margot Duckewich

The army said it was easing restrictions this morning on three West Bank towns, permitting residents of Tulkarm, Jenin and Kalkiya to travel within the West Bank and also opening the Rafiah Pass in the Gaza Strip.

On Friday the army lifted the so-called internal closures from Jericho and Nablus. The Allenby Bridge was also reopened to pedestrians.

The IDF Spokesman said that Israelis were also allowed to enter towns where the internal closure was lifted.

Hebron, Bethlehem and Ramallah were remaining closed to Israelis, and Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza were still barred from crossing into Israel, the spokesman said.

Last week the IDF allowed 13,000 Palestinian workers with permits from Gaza and the West Bank to work at factories on their side of the so-called Green Line.

The closure was clamped after the July 30 Mahane Yehuda bombing. Since then, dozens of Palestinians have been arrested in attempts to hurt the Hamas and Islamic Jihad infrastructure. Six suspects were arrested on Friday.

The bombers still have not been identified.

US may endorse economic peace plan

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

The United States may endorse a regional economic plan as a way to help resolve a crisis in Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, Labor MK Efraim Sneh said yesterday.

Sneh said he showed the plan for joint Israeli, Palestinian, Jordanian and Egyptian projects to US Ambassador Martin Indyk on Friday.

Indyk suggested he would hand the plan over to US Envoy Dennis Ross who is in Israel to try and

revive stalled peace talks, Sneh said.

Sneh said that Palestinian Economic Planning Minister Nabil Sha'at endorsed the plan after seeing it on Friday.

The plan puts forth two conditions for implementation: that the Palestinian Authority cracks down on terrorism and that Israel halts settlement building in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The proposed projects include Israeli-Palestinian agreement to increase the number of

Palestinians employed in Israel; development of a port in Gaza and routes connecting it with Jordan; a joint Israeli-Palestinian-Jordanian tourism company that would bring visitors to the West Bank; development of a joint airport for Eilat and Akaba; turning the Gaza and Aharot airports international; speeding up construction of industrial parks along the Gaza and West Bank frontiers; building an Israeli-Palestinian medical center on the edge of Gaza and laying a gas pipeline from Egypt to Israel.

Weekend accidents claim at least 6

At least six men died in road accidents this weekend, including a 19-year-old and five in their 20s.

The youngest victim, whose identity was not released, was killed Friday afternoon at the Kassem intersection when his vehicle collided head-on with another vehicle.

A 28-year-old from Dimona died early yesterday after driving his car off the Beersheba highway. He was on his way home from a night on the town.

A young woman from Dimona and her boyfriend were taken to Soroka Hospital with light to moderate injuries.

Three other fatalities were motorcycle drivers, two of whom plowed into cars while making a turn or straying from their traffic lanes, police said. Gili Moses, 26, from Ashdod, died on Friday at Tel Hashomer, and Yuval Bar, 29, of Yokneam, died yesterday. A third motorcyclist, Zev Shalom, 25, of Moshav Yanoum, was struck by a car who ran a stop sign, police said.

Mohammed Hashan, 53, from Kfar Merar in Galilee, was killed early Friday when a jeep en route to Karmiel strayed into his lane swiping the left side of his car, police said. Hashan's wife was

seriously injured and the jeep's driver was injured slightly.

Police were meanwhile investigating the death of a man found Friday in a commercial vehicle abandoned on the road between Kiryat Sefer and the village of Harbata in the West Bank. Chief Superintendent Ofer Sivan, spokesman for Judea and Samaria Police, said the vehicle was stolen and other details were being investigated.

Taxi drivers were expected to tie up service in the Tel Aviv area this morning while they held a protest from 7:30 to 10:30 to demand a 40 percent fare hike. (Jtm)

Judge to announce decision today on Lerner

Supreme Court Justice Ya'acov Kedmi announced Friday that he would announce his decision only today in the State's request to extend the remand of Gregory Lerner (Zvi Ben-Ari) by another 15 days.

Head of the State Attorney's economics department Shimon Dolan told the Supreme Court on Friday that there was concern Lerner would attempt to flee the country and may try to influence the investigation if released on bail. He added that this was not

simply an economic case but one that involved organized crime and attempts to buy a newspaper, set up a bank and bribe public figures. Justice Kedmi said the reason for the arrest does not justify extending remand for 90 days — time which Lerner had already served by late last week. He noted that two time frames are set by law for evaluating remand extensions — 30 days and 90 days. He said these time frames were set not for the purposes of investigation but for purposes of protecting an indi-

vidual's liberty. The State Attorney's lawyer responded by saying that there was concern that Lerner might perjure witnesses and stated that cases of organized crime require more extended and complex investigations. Lerner's lawyer, Prina Dvorin, said the State has thus far not proven that the alleged crimes require such a long remand nor do they justify remand until the end of proceedings, if charges are then to be pressed. (Jtm)

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW MICHAEL YUDELMAN

The weekend's media offer two versions of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's absence from Jerusalem's Mahaneh Yehuda market immediately after the terrorist attack and his appearance there only a week later.

Ha'aretz's Hanna Kim reveals the move as a well-planned, elaborately organized operation, which she calls the five-stage salami plan orchestrated by Prime Minister's Office director-general Avigdor Liberman.

The market, the radical right wing and Likud bastion, writes Kim, became military targets to be conquered anew, "since appearance is everything." First Liberman arranged meetings with the market's vendors, to whom he outlined his costly plan to renovate the place and improve their conditions. The vendors, their anger thus diffused, then helped to keep away extremists who protested against Netanyahu. Next, Finance Minister Yankov Neeman, Liberman and Treasury clerk came to the market, promising the vendors full property rehabilitation and financial compensation. Renovations were performed at lightning speed. The visits of Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai were used to trace remaining concentrations of objections and opposition to the prime minister, so they too could be neutralized.

Then Sara Netanyahu was sent to the market, which was still not considered ripe for

Netanyahu's visit — some "soothing" of the vendors was yet to be done.

Finally, the prime minister himself arrived, surrounded by hundreds of security guards, at 8:30 a.m., when there were few shoppers and most stalls were still closed. Netanyahu was carefully directed only to a few vendors who supported him. Journalists were not allowed to accompany him and were kept back "for security reasons." Following terrorist attacks in the past, Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres would visit the disaster sites almost immediately. "They did not make PR calculations. They were responsible leaders and felt it was their duty," MK Uzi Baram told Kim.

Nahum Barnea, in *Yedioth Aharanot*, agrees that Netanyahu's absence from the market for a week was not coincidence but a carefully calculated decision. First it was explained by Netanyahu's terrorism advisor as deriving from "security problems." His wife could go, but not the prime minister.

The real reason, he suggests, is that "Netanyahu did not want to be photographed with disaster. It's alright for him to be photographed with other people's disasters, but not his own." "Why don't you go to the market?" we asked him six days after the attack. "There is no principle that states I should go or not go," he said. "I'll go tomorrow."

Elsewhere in his column, Barnea says the

penalty measures decided on by the cabinet as a result of the attack were intended not only to hurt but to humiliate the Palestinians. The idea to jam Palestinian broadcasts was conceived by Communications Minister Limor Livnat, who convinced Netanyahu she could pull it off. Later it transpired that this promise was unfounded. Broadcasting Authority director-general Mordechai Kirschenbaum refused to allow it to happen, saving the government and the IBA from disgrace.

Much Ado

US envoy Dennis Ross's arrival was the culmination of a week filled with intense diplomatic activity, dramatic trips, blatant declarations and lengthy phone calls. But for all this feverish activity, nothing really happened, writes Ben Caspit in *Ma'ariv*. "Netanyahu did in these days what he does best: pass time, to make room for more time. As far as he's concerned, every day that passes with the continued severance between him and Arafat is for the best."

Cherni Shalev, also in *Ma'ariv*, relates that Ross has thought up a clever retort to end conversations in which people want to offer him their new ideas. "If it's anything like the 'new ideas' I've had from Netanyahu recently, do me a favor and spare me." Ross's sarcasm, says Shalev, reflects the basic attitude of the US administration towards Netanyahu, and to the "creativity"

he has demonstrated so far in advancing the peace process. This approach towards Netanyahu — a combination of fear, alienation and mistrust — did not change following the terrorist attack in Jerusalem, Shalev adds.

Where are the inciters?

Silvie Keshet marvels in *Yedioth Aharanot* at the disappearance of the "spontaneous," inciteful demonstrations, with posters prepared in advance, which used to erupt after terrorist attacks during Labor's reign.

There no demonstrations after the market attack and there was no "protest tent" such as the one in which Rehavam Zeevi (Molelet) and Ariel Sharon (Likud) sat under a poster of then-PM Rabin dressed in a keffiyeh and a slogan equating him with the terrorists, notes Keshet. Nor did Labor leader Ehud Barak head a macabre demonstration with a coffin, as Netanyahu did; rabbis didn't issue a "moser" verdict and no *pulsa denura* curse was made; there were no frightening protests with Netanyahu portrayed in an SS uniform, or an insane crowd screaming "We'll drive Netanyahu out with blood and fire!" as they did with Rabin and Peres. And no incited crowds attacked journalists or hounded Netanyahu and his wife day and night, threatening to "hang you both in the town square like Mussolini and his mistress," as they did the Rabbins.

Haredim challenge Reform council member

Agudat Israel called an emergency meeting on Thursday to come up with a strategy to fight a recent High Court decision to let a Reform woman serve on the Netanya Religious Council. Agudat Israel has invited central committee members to the forum in Netanya.

"We won't agree under any circumstance to letting Reform members into religious councils," former MK Rabbi Menachem Porush said. The reaction is to a ruling last week upholding the appointment of Dr. Joyce Gila Brenner to the Netanya Religious Council. (Jtm)

ROSS

Continued from Page 1

Bar-Ilan said Ross will be asked to obtain evidence of the PA's claim to have taken 1,000 Hamas and Islamic Jihad leaders into custody. "We suspect that most of them have been released," he said.

Arafat was quoted as saying he intends to raise the issue of settlements during his talks with Ross.

American diplomats balked at discussing the special envoy's itinerary, schedule or plans, contending that Ross firmly opposes such disclosures. They said they doubted that he would brief the news media at any stage of his mission.

Mother of seven drowns

Esther Orenstein, a mother of seven from Kfar Shalem, drowned yesterday at Palmachim Beach. The 44-year-old went swimming with a boyfriend in an area not designated for bathing. Her body was found by lifeguards shortly after her friend reported her missing. They tried unsuccessfully to revive her, and she was pronounced dead at the scene by a Magen David Adom medic. (Jtm)

IAF

Continued from Page 1

The synagogue was heavily damaged.

"We get up early to pray the shaharit service," said Avraham Edri, 42, who had been among the worshippers. "After we finished, we sat a bit to drink tea and talk, when suddenly there was a huge explosion and a Katyusha rocket landed in the sanctuary."

"It was a big miracle...none of us understood how we emerged without serious injury when a missile exploded so close to the

worshippers," he said.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai blamed the Lebanese government for not doing enough to prevent escalation of violence in the region. The area from which the Katyushas were launched is controlled by the Lebanese government, he said. The minister said the rocket attack was a serious violation of the Grapes of Wrath understandings, "something which Hizbullah must take into account."

Mordechai made his remarks during a visit to the Galilee pan-handle Friday morning. Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon

Lipkin-Shahak accompanied him. The two visited several northern locations and talked to residents about their fears, promising that the IDF would do its best to restore calm to the area.

"We have no interest in [escalating the violence]," Mordechai said. "We will act with cunning but firmness, and we will make it clear to all those behind the Katyusha firing that it will not be worth their while to continue."

Shahak rejected Hizbullah's denials of responsibility for the attack. He said the past week had been a difficult one for Hizbullah, which lost five men, including two commanders, in the IDF action last Monday. The organization felt compelled to demonstrate that it was still on the scene, he said.

Shahak said that Hizbullah was responsible for the death of at least four civilians last week who were killed in the security zone by roadside charges.

Israel had filed a complaint to the Grapes of Wrath monitoring committee about these deaths, but Lebanon also filed a complaint about them, claiming Israel was responsible. Security sources expressed shock at Lebanese "hutzpah, falsification, and distortion," in filing the complaint.

The Grapes of Wrath monitoring committee is to meet today at Nakoura to discuss 10 complaints, five from each side, including an Israeli complaint about the Katyusha attack. It will be the most complaints the committee has ever discussed at one session.

Labor Party Chairman Ehud Barak was also in Kiryat Shmona on Friday, on a visit that had been planned earlier. He said that quiet in the north would only come as the result of negotiations with Syria and he called on the government to resume negotiations with Damascus.

The United States on Friday condemned the cross-border attacks and urged all sides to exercise "maximum restraint" and end the violence.

State Department spokesman James Rubin said Washington had told Israel, Lebanon, Syria and Hizbullah, "Lebanon, that 'this is no time for escalation, this is no time to see civilians suffer.'"

"We've been in contact with all the parties directly to urge maximum restraint... We want that to stop," he told a news briefing. Israel Radio reported shelling by Hizbullah mortars last night on IDF and SLA outposts in the eastern and central sectors of the security zone.

Kiryat Shmona residents spent several hours Friday morning in bomb shelters. Many also chose to sleep there on Friday night. Some spent the weekend with relatives in the center of the country. Otherwise, life in the town seemed to have returned to normal yesterday.

Despite the tension, the owners of local hotels and guest houses were pleasantly surprised that relatively few people cancelled weekend reservations.

"We got a few cancellations because of the tension in the North, but we also got calls from families who wanted to come to show support, especially during this tense week," said Miriam, a guest house owner in Metulla.

At yesterday's morning service in the damaged Kiryat Shmona synagogue, the worshippers who had been there during the attack said the "Hagomel" blessing. The blessing is pronounced by persons who escapes a potentially hazardous situation unscathed.

Rabbi Shalom Levy, the rabbi of Kiryat Shmona, attributed the absence of casualties in the explosion to increased study of Torah in the town. He asked residents to pray that the situation not return to that which prevailed before Operation Grapes of Wrath, when Katyushas were falling frequently.

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of

ALEXANDER GAL

(Grudniewicz)

The funeral will take place today, Sunday, August 10, 1997.

The procession will leave at 1 p.m. from the Kehilat Yerushalayim funeral home, opposite the Herzog Memorial Hospital in Givat Shaul.

Mourning by:

Wife: Irene Gal

Son and daughter-in-law: Michel and Lillian Gal

Grandchildren: Jonathan, Daniel and Donna

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'Anti-sports' bomber strikes again in Sweden

STOCKHOLM (Reuters) — A massive explosion damaged Stockholm's old Olympic Stadium early on Friday — the latest in an series of unexplained attacks on sports venues in a city bidding to host the 2004 games.

The blast ripped a gaping hole in the roof above the main entrance on the east side of the stadium, which was the centerpiece of the 1912 Games but has only a secondary role in the city's hopes for 2004. No one was hurt.

Arsonists have struck seven sports venues in Stockholm since May and several indoor tennis arenas have been destroyed.

But Olof Stenhammar, president of the Stockholm bid committee, told

reporters: "There is no evidence that the explosion in the 1912 Stockholm Stadium has anything to do with the current Olympic bid." Bid chairman Goran Langsved said it was impossible to exclude the possibility that the attacks were related to the bid, but the bombers might have more general grievances.

"Perhaps they hate sport or they hate the Olympics, but they might also hate Swedish society," he said.

The International Olympic Committee will pick the site of the 2004 Games on September 5.

Residents in the inner Stockholm neighborhood where the old stadium is located were woken by an explosion about 1.00 a.m., police inspector Harriet

Leeftam said.

Police on patrol nearby arrived almost immediately and searched the area with dogs, but found no suspects, she said.

Most heavily damaged were the stadium announcers' booth and press booths, said police spokesman Claes Cassel. He said the police had no leads.

"There has been no message from anyone and we have very poor witnesses," said Cassel. "They saw cars, but they don't know the color or the model. We really don't know anything."

If Stockholm wins the 2004 Games, the stadium is scheduled to be used for some equestrian and modern pentathlon events but not as the main stadium.

All the recent fires at sports venues

have occurred at night. Police believe they may be connected, but no person or group has claimed responsibility.

"There has been absolute silence," Cassel said. "If the person or persons responsible have a special aim, it's most likely they would tell in some way. Since they haven't done this, you wonder what is going on."

By early afternoon, maintenance men were erecting signs around the brick structure, where some of the world's biggest athletic stars have set world records, announcing that the stadium was closed.

Police had roped off the main entrance while investigators searched for clues inside.

Glass littered the stadium's all-weather track. Tiles blown off the roof were layered on the pavement inside the stadium gate, but had been cleared from the cobblestones outside the gate and from the four-lane road along the stadium's east flank.

Twelve blue and white Olympic bid flags mounted on vine-covered ramparts at the stadium's south end fluttered in the breeze.

Security at the stadium is minimal with only a 1.5-meter wrought-iron fence for protection.

Langsved, who was informed by police about half an hour after the blast, said the incident would not affect Stockholm's chances of success in its

2004 bid.

"I don't think this accident will disturb the bid work, which is very intensive for us right now," said Langsved. "I don't think the decision will depend on what happened but on a lot of other factors."

Sixty-six members of the International Olympic Committee have visited Stockholm since June, he said. Another 20 are expected before the IOC vote on September 5.

Langsved said Stockholm's rivals, which include Athens, Buenos Aires, Cape Town and Rome, should help limit the effect of the blast by refraining from using the incident to boost their own chances.

Malcolm X grandson sentenced for burning death of Betty Shabazz

YONKERS, New York (AP) — The 12-year-old grandson of Malcolm X was sentenced Friday to at least 18 months at a juvenile center for burning to death his grandmother, Betty Shabazz.

The widow of the slain civil rights activist suffered burns over 80 percent of her body in the blaze June 1 at her apartment in Yonkers, a suburb of New York City, and died June 23 after a series of painful operations.

Malcolm Shabazz could be held until he turns 18. His sentence will be reviewed at the end of the 18 months and every year thereafter.

Malcolm pleaded guilty July 10 to the juvenile equivalent of manslaughter and arson in the death of his grandmother, with whom he had been sent to live.

Prosecutors said the boy set the gasoline fire in hopes of being reunited with his mother, Qubilah Shabazz, who has had problems with alcohol and a confrontation with the law.

Family Court Judge Howard Spitz sentenced Malcolm to Hillcrest, a center for troubled youngsters in Pittsfield,

Massachusetts.

Joseph DeCarlo, the probation officer assigned to the case, said New York had no place that could deal with Malcolm.

Psychologist Elizabeth Osborn previously testified that Malcolm is "a schizophrenic boy of a paranoid type," has an extreme fascination with fire and imagines himself as a character he calls "Sinister Torch."

The death of Mrs. Shabazz was the latest tragedy for family members, who watched from their seats in the Audubon Ballroom in Harlem as Malcolm X was assassinated in 1965. Betty Shabazz was pregnant with twins at the time. Her four other daughters, including Qubilah, saw their father's murder.

Qubilah was accused in 1994 of plotting to kill Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan in revenge for her father's assassination.

Betty Shabazz had publicly accused Farrakhan of a role in the murder. However, Farrakhan and Mrs. Shabazz later publicly reconciled, and charges against Qubilah were dropped in a deal with prosecutors.

Three dead in Nairobi riots

NAIROBI (Reuters) — Three people, including two policemen, were killed in Kenya Friday in unrest during a one-day national strike to press for constitutional reforms.

Barely 1,000 activists attended a rally in Nairobi's Uhuru park to hear opposition speakers demand sweeping political reforms from President Daniel arap Moi before elections due this year.

At the rally, gangs of youths ran down and beat up several people suspected of being police spies, including Gilbert Ahanya Simiyi. He was dead on arrival at a Nairobi hospital.

Opposition supporters said Simiyi was an inspector in the police special branch and was armed with a gun and a knife.

At the rally's end, hundreds of youths took to the city centre, breaking shop windows and chanting "Moi must go." They stoned vehicles and blocked roads until paramilitary General Service Unit police fired in the air and dispersed them.

In a statement, police later said an off-duty policeman who was passing during the rally was badly injured in a "fracas" with pro-reform protesters and died on arrival at a hospital.

It said the reformists also injured many other people in Uhuru park and in the town of Kiambu, 10 km north of Nairobi, stoned a police inspector driving home and when his vehicle overturned he was killed.

The statement said police were attacked by a large mob on a main road near Kiambu. Police fired 32 teargas rounds and live ammunition, hitting one man in the left leg.

The man later died at Kiambu hospital, said the statement, adding a total of 24 people were arrested in Kenya on Friday and six shops were damaged and one was looted.

It said police however noted "with satisfaction" that most people ignored the national strike called by opposition-backed



A plainclothes policeman lies dying Friday in Nairobi, after he was beaten by opposition supporters at a rally.

groups and thanked them for maintaining law and order.

Friday's killings marked the largest death toll in unrest since at least nine people were killed on July 7 when security forces violently suppressed pro-reform protests in Nairobi and other centers.

In Nairobi, most downtown shops were closed and some workers stayed home. But shop owners, many from the Asian community, said they closed for

fear of the violence and looting which is usual at political mass protests in Kenya.

Overall the national strike and marches called by groups pushing for political reforms had fairly mixed success.

Moi's government declared the strike and demonstrations illegal, but police did not intervene to stop the Nairobi rally.

In the city's vast Mathare slum, unemployed youths set up barri-

cades of burning tyres and clashed with riot police. They also attacked a bar and looted iron sheets.

They tried to join the rally in the park but were barred from marching through the Eastleigh suburb by ethnic Somalis.

Demonstrators marched in the western town of Kisumu and the Rift Valley town of Nakuru but calm returned when police intervened. Two opposition FORM- Kenya parliamentarians were

arrested in Kisumu allegedly for inciting people to strike.

The port of Mombasa, the country's second city, was calm, with only a few shops closed.

Moi, 73 and in power since 1978, is seeking a final five-year term at elections this year. Under pressure at home and from Western donors, he agreed to some reforms before the polls, succeeding in dividing some opposition party leaders.

Mars rover heads for uphill struggle

PASADENA, Calif. (Reuters) — The Mars rover is set to embark on its most ambitious journey yet — a hike up a hill that will give scientists a new view of the Red Planet.

"We're taking to the hills," said a jubilant Matthew Golombek, head of the Mars Pathfinder science team.

Briefing reporters at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Golombek said the eventual aim was for Sojourner, the little six-wheeled rover known, to climb a hill about 18 meters high.

It may seem like a small climb, but for the rover it presents an arduous challenge that will test it severely, Golombek said.

Sojourner, which is about the size of a household microwave oven and packed with sophisticated scientific instruments, will have to travel about 100 meters to the crest of the hill, negotiating boulders several times its size on the way.

Moving at slightly less than one centimeter per second, and stopping every one-quarter of a turn of its wheels to make sure it is still in contact with its mother ship, the Sagan lander, the rover's journey will be slow and tedious. It will probably take more than a month to reach the top of the hill.

"But once we get to the top, we'll be able to see a whole new vista of Mars we have never seen before, and from an angle looking down, not up," said Golombek. Pathfinder, which landed on Mars on July 4, ended up in a slight depression on the Martian surface.

During the primary mission, which covered the first 30 days on the planet and was completed this week, the lander and rover sent back twice as much data as expected, Golombek said.

Mission manager Richard Cook said NASA considered the mission "100 percent successful." The mission also set records on the Earthbound Internet.

The Pathfinder Web page (www.jpl.nasa.gov/marsnews) received 556 million hits during the first 30 days of the mission, including 47 million hits on July 8.

"The biggest Internet event ever," Golombek said. The mission's main emphasis was to shift from obtaining an overall picture of the landing site in the Ares Vallis plain to long-term monitoring of conditions, Golombek said.

Scientists said they were hopeful

the batteries and all the moving parts on the lander and rover would keep working for months, if not years, so they could experience conditions during the Martian autumn, winter and spring. It is currently late summer on Mars.

Mission meteorologist Tim Schofield said he was particularly interested in monitoring and photographing the global dust storms that can engulf the whole planet.

These storms, which occur around November and December, whip up the fine Martian soil, which has the consistency of talcum powder, sending it miles into the atmosphere.

The meteorological equipment aboard the lander has already recorded four "dust devils" — mini-tornadoes similar to those that occur in Earth's deserts.

Neo-Nazis defile Buchenwald guestbook

WEIMAR, Germany (AP) — Visitors are leaving a growing number of neo-Nazi slogans in the guest book of the memorial center at the site of the former Nazi concentration camp of Buchenwald.

Neo-Nazi messages in the book have multiplied "dramatically" in the last few years, said Volkhard Knigge, the director of the memorial center, said last week. Such slogans were now filling entire pages, he said. Knigge said that in May three young women wrote Hitler deserved a Nobel Prize, he said. Knigge plans an exhibition of photographs of the neo-Nazi messages, so that such writing "cannot be swept under the carpet." He also criticized a Leipzig court for ruling Wednesday that four teenagers were not guilty of inciting racial hatred when they left a quote from Hitler's deputy, Rudolf Hess, in the Buchenwald guest book.

Woman named to Iranian cabinet

TEHRAN (Reuters) — Iran's new President Mohammad Khatami has appointed the first woman to the cabinet since the 1979 Islamic revolution, an Iranian newspaper reported yesterday.

Masoumeh Ebtekar, a 36-year-old US-educated professor at Tehran University, was appointed vice president and head of the Environmental Protection Organization, the English-language *Iran News* quoted an unnamed source as saying.

It said Ebtekar holds a doctorate in immunology and served on the editorial board of an Iranian newspaper group.

Khatami was swept to power by a landslide election victory in May after attracting the female, youth and middle-class vote on expectations of social and economic reform.

The appointment of at least one

woman to the cabinet was seen by analysts as a recognition by Khatami that a large section of Iranian women are pressing for a stronger voice in political, legal, social and cultural issues.

The 54-year-old Shi'ite Moslem cleric has until August 18 to submit his full cabinet list for approval to the Majlis, or parliament.

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An Open Letter from a Palestinian

One of the Founding Members of the International Alliance for Arab-Israeli Peace ("Copenhagen")

As a friend and colleague, I would like to extend my condolences to you and to all our shared friends, following the tragic bombing that took place a few days ago. As a man of peace and co-existence, I find myself obliged to speak loudly and condemn such acts, which are to be deplored, and I do speak out against them. They help no one but the extremists on both sides, they de-rail the peace process, and prejudice the chances for a brighter future for all of us to share.

On such occasions, we must come closer to each other, and extract from the tragedy and pain hope for the future and for future generations. We should not lose the light of hope, but resist evil and fight back with determination to achieve peace together. I extend my hand to you in condolence, in solidarity, and in renewal of the battle for peace.

Our friendship becomes more important on such occasions. *Venceremos.*

Yours sincerely,
Riad Malki

The International Alliance for Arab-Israeli Peace ("Copenhagen")
16 Haminhara St., Herzliya 46586,
Tel. 09-955-1530, Fax. 09-955-5011



Elderly Japanese Christian women in Nagasaki pray yesterday for victims of the atomic bomb that fell there in 1945. (Reuters)

Nagasaki remembers the day the bomb fell

TOKYO (AP) — Bells tolled in temples and churches while Nagasaki paused yesterday to remember the moment 52 years ago when a US atomic bomb devastated the southwestern Japanese city.

A crowd estimated at about 22,000 gathered in intermittent light rain in the city's Peace Park for an annual memorial ceremony, which began at 11:02 a.m., the instant when the bomb exploded on Aug. 9, 1945.

The park, once a thriving business and residential area, was at the epicenter of the blast, which killed more than 70,000 people and reduced the port city's northern section to heaps of rubble and smoking cinders.

The explosion came three days after the bombing of Hiroshima, in which about 140,000 people died in the world's first atomic attack.

Addressing the crowd, Nagasaki Mayor Ichio Ito criticized the United States for conducting a low-level nuclear test last month in Nevada.

"We vehemently denounce the test, which was conducted with disregard for global criticism and we demand the suspension of all tests related to nuclear weapons," Ito said.

The United States says such low-level tests do not violate the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban, because they don't produce a self-sustaining nuclear reaction.

Hiroshima Mayor Takashi Hiroaka also criticized the testing during remarks made at his city's annual ceremony Wednesday.

In Nagasaki, people, including survivors and families of victims, prayed for the souls of the dead. Some offered strings of colorful folded paper cranes, a Japanese symbol of peace and longevity.

The city observed a moment of silence and doves were released into the air.

Some who offered prayers made the sign of the cross, a reminder of Nagasaki's large Christian population and the city's long history as an entry point for foreign ideas.

The vast majority of Japanese believe the bombings were unjustified, despite the country's war of aggression. US wartime leaders defended the atomic attacks as the only alternative to a bloody invasion of Japan, a view which many outside Japan still hold.

"The citizens of Nagasaki cannot tolerate the fact that there is still a body of opinion trying to justify the atomic bombings. At the same time we must confront and reflect deeply upon the fact of Japan's history of invasion and aggression in the Asia-Pacific region," Ito said.

Few traces of the bombing remain visible in Nagasaki. Unlike Hiroshima, where the half-destroyed Atomic Dome was left as a memorial to the bomb, Nagasaki rebuilt everything, including a cathedral destroyed in the blast.

Clinton declares \$2.4b. war on diabetes

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The US government will intensify the search for a cure for diabetes and expand benefits for diabetics under a \$2.4 billion war on the country's seventh leading killer, President Bill Clinton said Friday.

In a speech at Georgetown University Medical Center, Clinton said legislation he signed on Tuesday aimed at balancing the federal budget by 2002 included spending that "will take us a tremendous step forward in our fight against diabetes."

"These investments total more than \$2 billion over the next five years," Clinton said. "They will strengthen our efforts to find a cure, to help our most vulnerable citizens better manage the disease, to prevent some of its most traumatic, costly, and life-threatening complications."

Diabetes is America's seventh leading cause of death.

Eight million Americans are diagnosed with it and another 8 million are believed to have it as well but have not been diagnosed. It causes kidney disease, heart disease, blindness, and amputations.

The largest part of the program is an expansion of insurance benefits by \$2.1 billion over five years for 3.2 million senior citizens with diabetes.

Their benefits will now cover training for managing their treatment themselves and will make blood glucose monitors available to all beneficiaries with diabetes.

The program also includes \$150 million in new spending for research to prevent and cure Type 1, or juvenile, diabetes, which afflicts

700,000 to 1 million people.

Another \$150 million will go toward preventing and treating diabetes among Native Americans, who are almost three times as likely to suffer from the disease as others in the US population.

"Taken together, these initiatives can make life-changing differences for millions of Americans," Clinton said.

Robert Wood Johnson, chairman of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International, said the money for research on juvenile diabetes would help against one of the most chronic diseases of childhood.

"Insulin is not a cure for this devastating disease. But 25 years of research progress has brought us to the threshold of that cure," he said.



A South Korean woman who fainted at the crash site in Guam of the Korean jetliner is helped by a US soldier yesterday. (Reuters)

Crew error seen in Guam crash

AGANA, Guam (AP) — A preliminary analysis of the data and voice recorders indicate the cockpit crew members of a doomed Korean Air jet had no idea they were headed toward disaster, National Transportation Safety Board investigators said.

"There was no indication the crew was reporting anything wrong with the aircraft," Gregory Feith, the top investigator on the NTSB team, said this weekend.

Crew members of Flight 801 sent no distress messages to the control tower in the minutes before their fiery crash Wednesday in Guam. But investigators emphasized it was still far too early to pinpoint the cause of the crash, which killed 225 travelers going from the South Korean capital of Seoul to Guam.

Among the key points that investigators want to nail down are the effects of the driving rain that was falling on the night of the

crash, the technique the pilot used to land the plane and whether runway lights were on.

But the evidence seems to point toward human error, since the pilot appeared to be in full control of the plane at the time of the crash, NTSB board member George Black said.

"That's usually the situation or someone's interpretation of something, some kind of fault, because we don't intend for aircraft to run into the ground," he said, adding that "it's too early to talk about what or who that someone was — or something was."

Federal investigators, in Guam since Thursday, said they would have to study more evidence and receive a full transcript of cockpit conversations from analysts looking at the 'black boxes' in Washington to get a better idea of what happened.

NTSB Chairman Jim Hall said Friday in Miami that Korean air-

line officials were on hand to ensure that the recorded conversations — which were in Korean — were correctly translated.

The Boeing 747 was carrying 254 passengers when it crashed into the dense underbrush of a rocky hill on this US-governed Pacific island. Investigators said 29 people survived.

One of the survivors, 11-year-old Rika Matsuda, her small face bruised and puffy, visited a hill near the wreckage Friday to lay a bouquet of yellow flowers in memory of her mother, who died in the crash.

Later, Buddhist monks in orange and black robes led a memorial service on the hill. About 50 mourners, mostly relatives, bowed their heads and wept quietly as the monks chanted prayers, rang chimes and burned incense.

The NTSB will show photographs of 50-60 remains that are visually identifiable to family

members to try and hasten the identification process, said Matt Furman, an NTSB official assisting families in claiming the remains.

The plane's pilot, Park Yong-chul, 44, also died in the crash. NTSB officials were looking into his condition before the flight — a South Korean newspaper has suggested he may not have had enough rest before the Seoul-Guam trip.

Black dismissed as unlikely an NBC report that the pilot may have confused two navigational beacons, which could have led him to try to land the plane on the hill thinking it was the runway instead.

"This is not the sort of mistake you normally make," Black said, adding that even if the three-member cockpit team had confused the beacons — which have different frequencies — it would not have led to Wednesday's crash.

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610899	Low voltage, aerial, bundle conductors, 3 x 150 + 95 = 2 x 25 Quantity: 830 km. +/- 40%, with flexibility in supply, two-year contract Stage One - Request for technical proposal	NIS 3217

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Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope and placed in Tenders Box No. 1 in the Pal-Yam Building, Haifa (address as above) by the last date for submitting bids, as stated above.

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The Electric Corporation reserves the right to negotiate, where this is legally permissible.

ASPIRIN

Continued from Page 1

As an employee of the Frederick Bayer Co., Hoffman was part of a team charged with looking for new drugs to control pain. But the problem of chronic pain and inflammation also hit home for Hoffman.

His father was severely disabled by agonizing joint pain. Hoffman's father developed chronic stomach ulcers and bleeding from taking high doses of the medicine.

Medical historians differ on how Hoffman made his discovery. Some say he synthesized it through trial and error in his laboratory. Others contend that he "rediscovered the wheel," after reading a scientific paper by a German scientist, Charles Frederic von Gerhardt, who had first extracted acetyl salicylic acid from willow bark in 1853.

Von Gerhardt's compound, which was difficult to synthesize, was largely ignored for the next 50 years. According to this version of the story, Hoffman improved upon that extraction process, making it easier and faster to manufacture the drug.

However the discovery occurred, the finding kindled interest in the drug by Bayer officials. They sought a patent for this new version of salicylic acid, but were denied it. They then took another tack and registered acetyl salicylic acid under the trade name Aspirin. "A" stood for acetyl,

"spir" came from the German word Spürsaure, an old synonym for salicylic acid and "in" was a common suffix for drug names.

By 1899, Bayer was distributing a powdered form of aspirin to physicians for use by patients with arthritis.

The use of aspirin quickly caught on as physicians found that the drug was effective at controlling fevers, relieving pain and reducing all types of inflammation.

As medical historian Jan R. McTavish noted in a 1987 paper on aspirin published in the journal *Pharmacy in History*, the drug "was soon the preferred treatment for headache, toothache, and other minor pains, especially in influenza, the common cold or 'alcoholic indisposition.'"

By 1900, aspirin became the first drug available in a water-soluble tablet, which cut the cost in half. By 1906, aspirin was Bayer's best-selling drug and by 1914, it was one of the most widely used medications in the world, according to McTavish. The following year, aspirin became available without a doctor's prescription, widening its use even more.

Drug manufacturers jockeyed to gain control of this burgeoning market. But because Bayer held the trademark on the name aspirin, the company was able to successfully press claims that any doctor who prescribed aspirin prescribe the Bayer brand. Even today, in Germany and 70 other countries, including Israel, the name Aspirin is a trademark that belongs exclusively to Bayer AG.

Holbrooke: NATO will get Karadzic

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — US envoy Richard Holbrooke Friday ruled out a proposal from former Bosnian Serb president Radovan Karadzic, an indicted war criminal, that he be tried within Bosnia under international supervision.

Calling Karadzic's proposal "bizarre and totally unacceptable," Holbrooke said the former Bosnian Serb leader could expect no special deals.

"That is out of the question. He has got to be brought to justice," Holbrooke said in an interview in Belgrade after talks with Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic.

The Bosnian Serbs' wartime president is rarely seen in public but his heavily armed guards are a fixture in Pale, the town where he maintains his headquarters just outside Sarajevo.

In an interview published in the German newspaper *Sueddeutsche Zeitung* on Friday, Karadzic said he might be willing to face trial in Bosnia — where the local Serb judiciary is largely controlled by the ruling nationalist party he once led.

Holbrooke, who has gone to the former Yugoslavia on a mission to shore up the fragile peace, said his talks with Milosevic were part of "three steps forward" posted recently in implementing the 1995 Dayton peace accords.

These include a deal worked out with Bosnia's Serb, Croat and Muslim leaders to parcel out key ambassadorial appointments equitably, an agreement on telephone area codes in the country, and a NATO decision to treat military police in Bosnia just like soldiers.

"They will be treated absolutely identically to other forces. If they misbehave, they will be so treated." Asked if this meant that NATO forces could move closer to capturing Karadzic, Holbrooke indicated this was possible.

"I'm not going to even say that the two are directly related, but these paramilitary police are in all three factions and NATO will implement this in an evenhanded way. Karadzic is an indicted war criminal," he said.

Holbrooke, who was expected to threaten Milosevic with economic sanctions unless the Yugoslav leader lived up to his commitments under the Dayton accords, said he believed the United States would not give up its efforts in Bosnia.

"My own view has always been clear and I think the president shares this view. We have a mission in Bosnia, we're going to get it done. We're not going to walk away and let this go down the drain."

התאחדות הסוחרים

A patently good idea

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

It would be an exaggeration to say Israelis have a patent on imagination, innovation and daring – but such a claim is not too far from the truth.

According to the April issue of the *Israel Patent Bulletin* (an e-mail periodical published and distributed over the Internet by the local patent firm Jeremy M. Ben-David & Co.), Israel was – on a per-capita basis – fifth on the list of foreign countries with the most patents registered in the US in 1996. Israeli inventors were awarded 525 patents (or 93 US patents per one million residents); only Japan (with 192 per million), Switzerland (165), Taiwan (110) and Sweden (110) were ahead.

Even in absolute numbers of patents (without taking population into consideration), Israel was in 13th place overall, beating countries like Belgium (with 516 US patents), Finland (453), Austria (386), Denmark (334), Spain (187), the CIS (118) and Argentina (32).

The hypotheses explaining this achievement are many: Perhaps it derives from skills or genetic traits that promoted Jewish survival despite adversity over the millennia, mental dexterity from Talmud study or risk-taking (even reckless) behavior promoted by young people's military experience.

In any case, the golden wave of aliyah from the former Soviet Union over the past decade has undoubtedly added punch to these statistics, and many patents have been filed in recent years by new-immigrant inventors connected to the Industry and Trade Ministry's "incubator" program, which has helped people with good ideas but little money and a minimum of business experience to turn their innovations into salable products. Since the program began, hundreds of start-up businesses have

been launched and many of them have developed into actual companies.

A total of 120,000 patent applications have been filed here since the founding of the state, 50,000 of them during the past 14 years (compared to 5.8 million actually registered over the past two centuries in the US). Not surprisingly, many of the most recent patents are in computer software, the Internet and other high-tech areas.

THE FIELD is so fertile that, in about a dozen local firms and public agencies, there are 90 patent

"There is no formal study for becoming a patent attorney, but there are strict and formal requirements, including oral and written exams," Ben-David says. Supervision of patents and patent attorneys is carried out under the aegis of the Justice Ministry, and the Patents, Designs and Trademarks Registry is headed by its registrar, Michael Ophir.

The incubator program, coordinated by Rina Fridor at the Industry and Trade Ministry, has been so successful that it has become a leading model in the world, and government represen-

But since the cost of preparing an application and filing it is so great (more so the more complicated the invention), it is best to select the countries where the invention would be most likely to enjoy marketing success.

To be patentable, an invention must possess novelty and be a step ahead of what is known in the field of the invention at the time a patent application is filed, Ben-David says. It is recommended that the inventor first commission a patent search to confirm that there is not an already-existing patent for an identical invention,

the more likely it is that the application will be accepted.

The legal monopoly provided by the patent, once granted, is defined by a number of "claims." These define the basic principles of the invention, so that the patent cannot be circumvented merely by change of a small detail.

When the application is filed, it receives a serial number and a filing date. More than 100 countries are members of the Paris Convention, an agreement regulating patents that originated in the late 19th century. With the important exceptions of India and Taiwan, nonmember countries are usually minor-league when it comes to marketing potential.

According to the convention (administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization in Geneva), a person who files a patent application in one member country may file applications for the same invention in other member countries within 12 months, with priority rights retroactive to the filing date of the original application.

Examination of the application normally takes nine to 18 months in the US, compared to two or three years here, but the process can be expedited here if the applicant supplies a "good reason" for express treatment.

If the application is accepted and the inventor pays periodic renewal fees, the invention is protected for up to 20 years. After that it enters the public domain and anyone may copy it (although after two decades, it may be obsolete anyway).

If a patent is infringed, the patent owner has a firm basis for suing and making a considerable amount of money. The vast majority of patents are not infringed, but there are exceptions, Ben-David notes, citing Kodak's infringement of Polaroid's patents in instant photography. Kodak had to pay Polaroid \$300 million in compensation and lay off 20,000 staffers in the wake of the suit.

The address of Jeremy Ben-David & Company's Web site on patents is: <http://www.israel-patents.co.il>

Israel was – on a per-capita basis – fifth on the list of foreign countries with the most patents registered in the US in 1996. Israeli inventors were awarded 525 patents (or 93 US patents per one million residents); only Japan (with 192 per million), Switzerland (165), Taiwan (110) and Sweden (110) were ahead.

attorneys, most of whom hail from English-speaking countries. (A firm grasp of the most technical terms in English, as well as a scientific background, are vital for writing patents, many of which are registered in this international tongue.)

A patent attorney is generally not a lawyer (*orech din*) at all, says Jeremy Ben-David, who heads the growing patent-attorney firm in Jerusalem's Har Hotzvim industrial park and who has a degree in engineering from his native London. Ben-David's partner is his father, Dr. Stanley Davis, a pharmaceutical patent specialist who has degrees in both law and chemistry and started as an examiner in the British Patent Office in 1958, moving to Israel in 1984. Although the profession is called "patent attorney," it is more properly called "*orech patentim*" in Hebrew.

tatives have come from abroad to see how it works.

One of the main reasons for its success is that the innovators, mostly from abroad, are matched with local businesspeople and other experts who serve as project managers, using their experience in getting projects off the ground here. The role of inventors from the former Soviet Union is so great that Ben-David recently hired an immigrant from Ukraine, Ludmilla Eidis, who shares their language and culture.

Many young Israeli entrepreneurs have ideas they are certain will turn them into millionaires, and some succeed in setting up a business. But there are many barriers to leap over before they can get their innovations registered as patents.

Ben-David and Davis note that a patent application can be filed in as many countries as one likes.

or even a similar one.

Such information was for years obtained by a manual search of patent registries around the world, but it is now obtained mostly by computer. Though a search – recommended but not obligatory – can't guarantee that all existing patents relating to an invention will be found, it usually helps one write the patent application in such a way as to avoid obstacles in the examination process.

THE PATENT application, which is comprised of many pages of highly technical information often accompanied by drawings best prepared by a draftsman, must include a description of what is publicly known in the field of the invention as well as the drawbacks of prior products and processes.

The patent attorney must also provide the basic principles of the invention, a description of its advantages over existing products and processes and an explanation of how the invention is put into practice. The more skillful and experienced the patent attorney,

HEALTH SCAN

Personal invitations get women to have mammograms

By POST HEALTH REPORTER

Sending personal invitations to women aged 50 to 74 – without frightening them unduly about the dangers of breast cancer – is the best way for health funds to get their members to come for a mammogram. A study by Haifa's Carmel Hospital and the Technion's medical faculty found that neither an aggressive letter nor the signature of the woman's family physician increased the overall compliance rate.

Liora Oren, Lea Haguel, Galia Shifroni and Gad Rennert report on their study of 1,500 women in the latest issue of the *Israel Journal of Medical Sciences*.

Only a small percentage of middle-aged and elderly women undergo mammograms, even though one out of nine Israeli women will get breast cancer during her lifetime and the scan has been proven to reduce mortality from breast cancer by 30 to 40 percent. Now that the Health Ministry requires the four health funds to invite all women of relevant ages for a free breast scan every two years, it's important to find the best way to encourage compliance.

Letters were sent out, giving a date and time for a scheduled screening. The tone of the letters was either severe or measured; the signature was either that of the family physician or the head of the national mammography program. Each woman was offered the option of changing the appointment time or of having the scan done in another approved mammography institute.

Of the 1,224 women who had received the invitation, 56% did not go for a scan. More than 300

said they had already had a mammogram during the past two years, but the rest refused because of "inappropriate timing," "no interest" or "fear." Women who underwent regular gynecological exams and those had friends or relatives with breast cancer were more likely to go for the scan. Differences in ethnic origin, number of children, education, family status, degree of religious observance or work outside the home were not relevant.

Even healthful behaviors such as not smoking, controlling fat intake and a dietary abundance of fruits and vegetables did not increase the likelihood of going for a mammogram, nor did awareness of media reports (like Israel Cancer Association public service announcements).

But when a family physician urged a patient face-to-face to go for a scan, compliance was increased. Thus the authors recommend that doctors do more to explain to their women patients the importance of accepting the health fund's invitation.

PRIVATE WARD

The Health Ministry has for the first time approved the opening of a psychiatric ward for patients who will pay for care privately. The Herzliya Medical Center is offering three beds, in luxurious facilities, for privately paying psychiatric patients.

In the first stage it is receiving only adult patients needing full hospitalization or day-hospital care. Many of them are being treated for emotional crises due to depression and anxiety. In a departure from the practice in public hospitals with psychiatric wards, the patient's personal psychiatrist may be integrated into the hospital team.

DISK-COVERY

Undersea adventure



Jam-packed with information on the sea.

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Ha'olam Hanufila, Hayam Vehafan, a Hebrew-language CD-ROM by Hed Arzi Multimedia, translated from One Small Square: Seashore, by Virgin Sound and Vision and Scientific American, for ages eight and up, NIS 159.

Rating: four-and-a-half stars out of five

The vast, seemingly endless surface of the sea belies the incredible variety of flora and fauna that live below in the kingdom of Neptune. Just hold your breath and dive into this wonderful program – a sister disk to the previously released Hed Arzi disk *One Small Square: Backyard*. It's an interactive encyclopedia on the sea that will thrill both children and adults alike.

The oceans have been the subject of at least one previous piece of software, *Undersea Adventure*, produced by Knowledge Adventure and translated into Hebrew by the late, lamented local software company Mirage. But the Hed Arzi product is much more sophisticated, versatile, and jam-packed with multimedia material.

It consists of a variety of layers. The high-quality video clips (particularly memorable is a close-up of the mouth of an octopus) and absorbing Hebrew narration will attract even pre-schoolers. Older children will enjoy various activities, scientific experiments, and assignments that can be stored in the program's built-in compendium of text and pictures, while they can also make use of the written database on ocean flora and fauna. The program's effective search capability allows you to type in key words and immediately find textual material, films, and animations on the subject you seek.

A total of 200 varieties of plants and sea creatures are included in the subject matter. Like the previous disk, which shows the earth and its changes during the four seasons, the *Seashore* disk allows the user to click the mouse and maneuver a three-dimensional square in six directions. One can also click on a magnifying glass to zoom in or out.

There are nine major categories, each containing a cornucopia of material on life under the sea. Click on the experiments section and learn how to preserve sea plants, make a record of the tides, or find out whether a shell on a rock has a living occupant (make a mark around it with chalk, the disk advises; if it moves out of the circle, it is alive). The games are also enjoyable: hand-eye coordination is required for getting a seagull to plunge into the water and catch fish. In another game, you have to click the mouse to lead a crab safely back into its shell; one false step and he'll be gobbled up by a lobster. A memory game helps users recall the names and pictures of sea plants and animals, while a fourth game requires the user to find concealed animals. Anyone who is interested in undersea life will spend many enjoyable hours plumb the depths of this disk.

Mishkefei Ha'Roenigen Shel Prof. Wise, a CD-ROM in Hebrew for children aged four to nine, produced by Hed Arzi Multimedia, translated from Prof. Wise's X-ray Eyes by GTE Entertainment, NIS 79.

Rating: two-and-a-half stars out of five

Professor Wise is a gray-haired, mustachioed academic with a German-Jewish accent who presents 10 unconnected subjects to young computer users. Ranging from Noah's Ark and Egypt to cereal and toys, each subject is clicked to present a scene full of objects. Some are clearly observable while others are hidden inside boxes or behind certain things. The aim of the program is to listen to the professor's rhymed clues and locate the object.

In some cases, it is visible and easily distinguishable by the young user, but in others, one has to click on a magnifying glass or an x-ray device to make them appear. If you're really desperate, click on a globe-shaped icon, which will fly around the requested object, giving you the answer. Each of the 10 scenes has five objects to look for and when you've accomplished these "challenges," you're awarded a medal for your effort. But the animation is primitive and the effort is relatively small, even for the youngest children; if you go through it more than once, it becomes tedious.

Perhaps the best thing about this disk, besides the low price, is the credits. All 25 Americans who worked on the original English-language disk are presented, their photographs appearing in windows of a building. Click on the photo, and the shutters open as their name and function are given. If they had used as much imagination in the subject matter itself, they would have more reason to be proud.

book department

Guide to the Golan Heights

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TELL ME WHY



(Werner Braun)

Males give up weaving for sex

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

I've noticed that spiders' webs woven outdoors last only a short time, but those inside can remain on the spot for days or even weeks. What happens to those outside? Does the wind blow them away? And do spiders weave them more often outdoors because they know there is more flying prey? Do both male and female spiders make webs? Arthur, Safed.

Dr. Ya'el Lubin, a spider expert at Ben-Gurion University's Mitrani Center for Desert Ecology at the Sde Boker Institute for Desert Research, comments:

Not all spiders weave webs, but of those species that do, female spiders are the main web builders. Males also make them before they have reached their adult stage. After that, all they are interested in is sex, and they give up their weaving. Then they often sit on the edge of a female's web and are careful not to get stuck on it. Most spiders live up to a year.

How often a spider renews its web depends on the type of spider

and the type of web it makes. Common garden spiders build a new orb web every day – even several times a day. The silk loses its stickiness quickly, or the web breaks when prey struggles in it, so they have to make new ones. They usually feed on the old web, thereby recycling the silk protein to make new ones.

Those that build outdoors prefer sheltered, dark places, so wind doesn't bother them so much. But sometimes wind causes a branch to fly into the web and breaks it, so they have to build quite frequently.

Those that live mostly indoors usually don't have to make their webs as often because there is less damage. These include the pholcid spider (sometimes called "Daddy Long Legs"), and they weave webs that can last for weeks. If there is damage, they add silk to the web to strengthen it, making a new one only if the old one cannot be repaired.

Pholcids don't make sticky webs; I call their creations "knock-down" webs. The prey hits the web while flying and falls down, dropping onto a sheet of silk produced by the

spider, which then eats it. This interception usually causes less damage to the web than the struggles of prey against a sticky web.

Why does skin itch several hours after one gets a sunburn? Miri, Ashkelon.

Dr. Ronni Wolf, a dermatologist at Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv, replies:

Beyond the sunburn itself, the itching is a sign that damage has been done to skin cells by the sun's ultraviolet rays. The radiation causes the release of prostaglandins and other natural chemicals in the body, which react to the damage, and these are the cause of the itching. Creams can relieve the itching, but they don't heal the damage to the skin.

Have you always wondered about the scientific explanation for ordinary phenomena? Now you can get an answer. Mail your question to TELL ME WHY, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem, fax it to (02) 538-9527, or send it by e-mail to jusie@jpost.co.il. Please include your first name and place of residence.

NEW WORLDS

Education Ministry promises: All pupils will learn to surf the net

By POST SCIENCE REPORTER

All school pupils will be taught how to surf the Internet, at least that's what the Education Ministry promises, in a project that will be implemented gradually over the next three years. Ministry director-general Ben-

Zion Dell says his office regards the Internet as "a new language" that in the near future will be taught in schools just like conventional languages, along with English and Arabic, for example. "We must ensure that every child will know how to use the Information Superhighway ... for learning,

enrichment and many other needs," he declares.

Education Minister Ze'evulun Hammer says that the wealthier sector of the population will be exposed to the Net on its own, but the schools should bring Internet skills to all pupils so that the lower socioeconomic groups are not handicapped.

The ministry is now examining the question of how to prevent pupils from accessing pornographic and other "anti-educational sites" at school.

The ministry recently issued a tender for the National School Computer Telecommunications

Project, which was won by a consortium of companies called the Educational Network. The participants include Tadiran, Euronet, Golden Lines, Binat, Bezeq Zahav and Marnet-Hoffman & Eshed. The project will begin with a pilot encompassing 50 schools, which will be linked to the Internet.

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Last chance for Dayton

So far, it's a mixed year for peace processes — Northern Ireland on, Arab-Israel stalled. Kashmir off, Cyprus stalled. Now Bosnia too is back in the headlines for all the wrong reasons. Bosnia all but vanished from the editorial columns after despairingly dominating them for years. But the world being weary of the name and the combatants is not a good enough indication that peace and nation-building have taken root under the US-brokered Dayton peace accords. That is why tough US envoy Richard Holbrooke has deemed it necessary to return to the uneasy Balkans. The Dayton peace not only is in danger. It is being deliberately undermined and the main villains of the story reside — as usual — in Pale, the hornets' nest which serves as the headquarters of the Bosnian Serbs and the haven of their fugitive war criminals.

Holbrooke pulled no punches before traveling to the region. He said bluntly that all-out obstruction by the trouble-making leadership in Pale, particularly allies of convicted war criminal Radovan Karadzic, was blocking and undermining Dayton. Yet there are no absolute goodies and baddies in Bosnia and its environs. Bosnia remains a three-way split that is refusing to meld into the envisaged federal unit. One day mobs of Croats blockade towns against Muslims returning home under the Dayton agreement, another day it is Moslem villagers blocking or attacking Serb refugees. In the supposedly reunited capital of Sarajevo the national leaders squabble endlessly about everything from road signs to appointing

envoys. The arguments are not constructive searches for consensus but obstructive pettiness. These mostly local upheavals have slipped out of daily international news, but have been nibbling away daily at the two-year old Dayton accords. Holbrooke is aware that such persistent irritations could suddenly explode into something more serious. Yet the subversive and intransigent Serbs remain at the heart of Balkan instability. NATO commanders may have firm control over military factions but a growing menace in Bosnia are the Serbs' "special police forces" whose main mission seems to be the dismantling of Dayton. They are active in preventing the return of refugees and in protective the fugitive war criminals. It is time for NATO to bite the bullet and disband them. This would finally expose the indicted war criminals to easier capture.

There are other pressures on Holbrooke's mission to save Dayton. The political clock is ticking: the NATO peacekeepers in Bosnia — in less than a year they must be withdrawn — and against the US administration. If Dayton's Bosnia is not stabilized, departing troops will leave behind turmoil in Bosnia and another foreign peace humiliation for President Bill Clinton. The president faces the stark and growing possibility of leaving office with all his pet peace projects — the Middle East, Northern Ireland and Bosnia — stalled or failed. History does not smile indulgently on a catalog of missions labeled as "attempts to salvage the peace process in swamps A, B, and C."

Mir Miracle

The crippled Mir space station inevitably has become a comedian's delight but while enjoying the wisecracks, we should spare too a thought for the achievement of this last miracle of the great Soviet space program. Mir has been in orbit for 11 years — and it was never intended to operate for so long. Despite its recent problems, it has been home to nearly 80 cosmonauts and guest astronauts, and the record for the longest stay in space, 14 months, was made there. It has provided an endless and profoundly important stream of data which will be the foundation of knowledge for future long-distance space flights.

Even its problems are providing a rare opportunity to study solving just such unexpected engineering and human problems as are certain to be encountered as space exploration expands. The Russians are absolutely right to resist calls to abandon the crippled craft. President

Boris Yeltsin's decision this weekend to order his government to borrow \$100 million from foreign banks for the space agency is to be welcomed. Unknown at its launch, Mir was fated to become a bridge between the competitive Cold War space race of the Soviets, and the new cooperative effort of the Russians. It is the true forerunner of the international space station project led by the Americans. In losing Mir, Russia's space effort and national pride would suffer a depressing blow. Until we lose Mir, all mankind will not appreciate how Mir has brought space travel down to real human terms — brave, flawed, frustrating and indomitable.

Accidents will happen, and as long as the crews' safety remains paramount and those crews are willing to soldier on, the space managers deserve to be commended, not condemned. The West was not won by wimps — neither will the solar system.



Bogus qualifications

DAVID NEWMAN

An academic degree used to be worth something. It used to reflect three or four years of hard work, much of the time spent in the classroom, the laboratory and/or the library. More often than not, it required the completion of a final year research paper in which the skills acquired by a student throughout his/her period of study came under close scrutiny.

A degree from one of Israel's seven major institutes of higher education (the five universities, the Technion, and the Weizmann Institute) was rightly regarded as being equivalent to a similar degree from many of the top universities in Western Europe and North America. Israeli students who desired to continue their studies in foreign universities had few problems in having their degrees recognized by these institutions.

But Israel today is getting a name for worthless degrees. Not, it should be said, from the degrees awarded by the country's mainstream universities, but from the multiple foreign universities and colleges that are allowed to sell their questionable wares within the Israeli marketplace. All it takes is a foreign institute with degree-awarding status in its home country, coupled with an enterprising agent in Israel, and the chances of accreditation by the Ministry of Education are good.

Students who register for these degrees are rarely required to complete anything like a full degree program. They may be required to send in an occasional paper to an anonymous instructor whom they have never met, or perhaps even attend a short summer school, which is usually an excuse for a vacation in foreign pastures. Scores of Israeli students, seeking the easy way to obtain a degree, or who do not possess the necessary qualifications to gain entry to one of the local universities, have signed up for these "quickie" degrees. And the number is increasing.

Needless to say, it is rare to see

the major foreign universities engaged in these practices. No Ivy League or Oxbridge institutions demean themselves in this way, however enticing the financial gains may be. Moreover, many of the colleges that do sign up the foreign students would never allow their own full-time students to get away with this reduced workload.

Awarding foreign degrees to Israeli students should be stopped, not encouraged, by the Ministry of Education

Israeli universities do not necessarily recognize the validity of these suspect degrees. A student applying to continue for a higher degree at one of Israel's universities will have his or her entire syllabus examined. If it does not match up to the minimal requirements of the universities, they will not be accepted for further studies. No doubt-pressure will be exerted on the universities to become more flexible and to recognize these degrees as their number grows.

THE guilty party in Israel is clearly the Ministry of Education. Teachers in schools have these degrees recognized for the purpose of *hishlamut* (advanced study training), in which case they will receive salary supplements or have their travel costs covered through their professional funds. The number of teachers holding these worthless degrees, first, second, and even third, has risen in leaps and bounds in the past five years. It is extraordinary to meet some of these people who have a piece of paper attesting to a degree

from an English university and who are unable to put two words of coherent English together.

For those who sincerely desire to obtain a degree through a process of educational enrichment, but are unable to register at one of the mainstream universities, there are alternatives to the bogus degrees. In recent years, higher education for all has been extended throughout Israel. The regional colleges, affiliated to, and under the supervision of, the universities, are now able to teach degree programs. New colleges have been opened to meet the increased demand for places by a student population who realize that a first degree today is often equivalent to yesterday's matriculation in the competition for jobs.

The Open University is another alternative venue. Modeled on the Open University system in Britain, students are able to undertake full courses of study towards an academic degree, often from the comfort of their home or during evening hours for those unable, due to family or professional commitments, to attend a university on a daily basis. Many mature students who were denied the opportunity of full time study when young adults, have benefited from this excellent, and high quality, educational system.

Israel has long been known for its academic excellence. There is every reason to maintain a high degree of academic elitism while, at the same time, allowing a growing number of students to undertake degree courses and programs. But this does not mean that we should allow ourselves to open the floodgates to an unlimited inflow of academic pornography. It is a system which should be stopped, rather than encouraged, by the Ministry of Education.

The writer is professor of political geography and director of the Humphrey Institute for Social Studies at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

Leaving town

DAVID WEINBERG

There's few things worse than being labeled a deserter.

Nobody's come right out and said it, yet, but that's how I feel. Moving out of Jerusalem weighs heavily on my conscience. It's hard to shake the thought that I'm abandoning the city to the Arabs and the haredim.

No, this is not another polemic by an "enlightened" Israeli who is "suffocating" in the overly intense holy city and is "fleeing" for the free expanses of cosmopolitan Tel Aviv.

Just the opposite. This is the lament of an ideologically driven, religious immigrant, who is tearing himself away from the city to which, and for which, he made aliyah. (My young family and I arrived here four days after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.) This is the elegy of a die-hard romantic who still pines for Jerusalem — friends, fanatics, and all.

We're the classic Jerusalem casualty: A growing family forced out by the high cost of housing. A three-bedroom apartment in Ramat buys you a three-story semi-detached house in the Modi'in area.

This relocation wrenches at my soul. I will miss the spirituality of Jerusalem that so bothers others. The clash of ideologies and eschatological yearnings, the plethora of conflicting cultural and religious institutions across all the spectrums, the genuine search for meaning — these make Jerusalem an intense, stimulating, and fulfilling, if sometimes dangerous, place. This is the center of the world, and I have reveled in its potency.

My angst is compounded by guilt. Just when the battle for Jerusalem is really heating up, when the Jewish presence in Jerusalem will be of critical

Jerusalem is the center of the world, and I have reveled in its potency

importance, we're heading-off for the Coastal Plain.

Everybody has some red lines when contemplating the inevitable Oslo III and Oslo IV diplomatic settlements with the Palestinians; mine is uncompromising Israeli sovereignty over united Jerusalem. And yet, I forsake the city for other pastures. In the still of the night, alone, I ask myself am I yielding Jerusalem?

Even worse is the gnawing fear that I'm abandoning to the fanatics who grace David's capital in ever-growing numbers: from the incautious nationalists who insist on implanting themselves in Ras al-Azud, to the haredi hoodlums who burn bus stops and hurt dirty diapers, to the rabid secularists who find it impossible to grant the believer his corner of Sabbath peace.

I'm convinced that the sane, moderate public can prevail (yes, "moderate" is a substantive label to be proud of, for religious and secular alike), but, alas, I won't have a vote in the next Jerusalem municipal elections.

Despite it all, I'm determined to remain a Jerusalemite, in spirit if not in civic identity. Relocation is not relinquishment; migration need not equal divorce. We'll be back — for the *shmirah* and the spirituality.

My wife and I will be back for the clean mountain air and the mystique of Jerusalem's old neighborhoods at night. And we'll be back with the kids for the celebration of religious holidays and Jerusalem national celebrations. And if you ask me, Jerusalem Day should be a formal civic holiday, like Yom Ha'atzmaut.

And I'll be there, if necessary, to man the barricades in preserving Jerusalem's unity. You won't even need to call — I'll be there, linked to their products. Beer ads could show people with the delirium tremens, cigarette ads could show a cancer ward.

"Come to think of it, the degradation, etc., don't even have to be product-related: I mean, there's nothing about a designer's clothes that makes you become a heroin addict. (Is there?) So you could just have random misery: 'Buy this skate-board and get sick!' 'Purchase our orange juice and lose your job!' What a breakthrough! Why didn't the ad industry think of this years ago?"

"No doubt many people in the fashion industry want to be hip, and think the drugged-out look is the way to do it. But this 'oh-God-I'm-out-of-heroin' look in fashion ads surely can't continue for long."

"Let's get back to nice cheerful healthy models, please!"

The writer, who moves out of Jerusalem this week, comments on public affairs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SHAMEFUL COVERAGE

Sir, — I thank our national radio and TV have insulted not only Israel, but world Jewry, and have once again shown themselves divorced from anything Jewish.

This year, we hosted the 15th Maccabiah, described by international media like CNN, BBC, etc. as the Jewish Olympics. At a time when we hear complaints about lack of tourism, thousands of Jewish sportsmen and women from 54 countries, together with accompanying groups, came here to participate in what has become the fourth largest international sports competition. Yet instead of

proudly showing this event, the official media of the State of Israel has time for only a quarter-hour slot after the evening news. Anytime there is an event that interests the sports section at Channel 1, we have to put up with all sorts of program changes because they have to bring it "live" and presumably have to pay quite heavily for the privilege. I suppose the "perks" on an overseas broadcast are much better than on local ones.

Channel 23 (misnamed the "educational" channel) could surely have been used to bring us

live coverage during the whole day and evening of the various events, whilst Channel 1 could have devoted some hours every day for live coverage for those who do not get Channel 23. Channel 1 should also have arranged for satellite transmission to the many countries the participants come from, so that their families, friends, communities and anyone interested in international sport could see Jewish sportsmen and women perform.

EMANUEL FISCHER
Jerusalem.

WOMAN POWER

Sir, — Allison Kaplan Sommer's article of July 21 on the incredible and unsung abilities of mothers of large families (and smaller ones) raises many issues, which need to be addressed if society is to move into the next stage of the feminist revolution.

The women of this century have had to leave their children and go out into the world in order to show that they, too, are people — people with rights, desires, talents and differences. It is a great loss to all

of us that the mother of 10 children has to sit in an office in order to prove her worth to society.

Certainly the mental, physical and emotional strengths needed to run a home with a large family are similar to those needed by hotel managers, film directors, and many other high-powered jobs. To be able to keep a budget, satisfy every need, see everyone fed and clothed, and the bills paid, and still have a bit left over to buy a book, is something the minister

of finance would like to do. To maintain the discipline needed to live in peace together, yet convince everyone that you really love them individually, is something the secretary-general of the UN wishes he could do.

I often wonder how many of the answers to how many of the world's problems are locked inside the brains of women standing at their kitchen sinks.

RENEE BRAVO
Asseret.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

60 years ago: On August 10, 1937, The Palestine Post reported that at the 20th Zionist Congress in Zurich a stage was set for a deciding vote on the Lord Peel's Royal Commission on Palestine Partition scheme.

A committee of 48 members had drawn up a resolution reaffirming the historic connection and the undeniable rights of the Jewish people in Palestine. The Committee endorsed Dr. Chaim Weizmann's declaration that "partition was unacceptable and ejected the 'palliative' proposed by the Royal Commission authorizing the Zionist Executive to negotiate conditions for the

establishment of a Jewish State.

50 years ago: On August 10, 1947, The Palestine Post reported that the ultimate destination of Exodus 1947 "illegal" immigrants to Palestine may be Hamburg, if, after further persuasion, they refuse to disembark in France. French authorities, reluctant to issue time ultimatum to Britain, were reported to be uneasy about their direct complicity with the British in prolonging the sufferings of the refugees by allowing the suffocating, overcrowded, unsanitary, unhealthy "prison cages" to remain in French waters. They noted that time and psychological pressure were the

principal British weapons, since tear-gas and force were excluded in French territorial waters.

A troop train was derailed near Lod.

25 years ago: On August 10, 1972, The Jerusalem Post reported that some 300 former residents of Birim and Birat squatted in their churches to back their demand to be allowed to return to their homes evacuated 25 years earlier. Relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union had entered a "cold war," while Jerusalem was calm over reports of US-Egypt contacts.

Alexander Zvielti

PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



It had to happen eventually: Jeanne Calment has died. Officially recognized as the world's oldest person, Calment passed away in a nursing home in the French town of Arles, at the age of 122.

(Reuters)

POSTSCRIPT

DOUG CAMILLI, a no-nonsense commentator for the Montreal Gazette, has a wonderful way of humbling the world's self-important people, like this recent poke-in-the-eye:

"One of the principal supporters of the 'heroin chic' trend, *Detour* magazine style director Long Nguyen, has explained his thinking. If that's the *mot juste*: 'Photography should mirror life. That mirror includes happiness, joy, leaping around, as well as degradation, despair and nihilism.' And so, he argues, 'sadness' will become a permanent element of fashion photography."

"What a nut! I wonder why other industries don't also show degradation, despair and nihilism linked to their products. Beer ads could show people with the delirium tremens, cigarette ads could show a cancer ward."

"Come to think of it, the degradation, etc., don't even have to be product-related: I mean, there's nothing about a designer's clothes that makes you become a heroin addict. (Is there?) So you could just have random misery: 'Buy this skate-board and get sick!' 'Purchase our orange juice and lose your job!' What a breakthrough! Why didn't the ad industry think of this years ago?"

"No doubt many people in the fashion industry want to be hip, and think the drugged-out look is the way to do it. But this 'oh-God-I'm-out-of-heroin' look in fashion ads surely can't continue for long."

"Let's get back to nice cheerful healthy models, please!"

08/10/97



Al-Kuds, the largest circulation Palestinian daily (above), never covered the PA's arrest of Palestinian journalist Daoud Kuttab.

(Brian Henders)

When no news is bad news

By JUDITH MILLER

Just as Palestinians are struggling to establish a state of their own, an independent Palestinian press is fighting to be born. So far, neither effort has been easy.

For Arabic-language Palestinian newspapers in Jerusalem, the neighboring West Bank, and the Gaza Strip, political turmoil, censorship and intimidation have combined with soaring paper and printing costs and a severe economic recession to make publishing an extremely risky venture.

Moreover, competition is fierce among the three leading dailies — competition for market share, for the skimpy number of advertisers, and for readers. Israel continues to censor the Jerusalem-based Arabic press, but things are not that different on the Palestinian side of the military checkpoints. While the Palestinian Authority does not formally censor newspapers, its corruption and heavy-handed crackdown on Islamic and secular dissidents, among other things, have made the PA increasingly unpopular. Hence it is more inclined to intimidate papers on the rare occasions that they report on government abuses.

The Palestinian press law enacted in 1995 ostensibly guarantees a free press — as do most Arab states, at least in theory — and the "absolute right" of every Palestinian "to express his opinion in a free manner either orally, in writing, photography, or drawing." But self-censorship, editors agree, in Palestine and throughout the Arab world is often more insidious than official control. "You can't have genuine freedom of the press without real democracy," says Khaled Amayreh, an American-educated columnist who writes for non-Palestinian Arabic-language newspapers and for several English-language journals. The Palestinian Authority, he added, "is a police state without a state." But editors of major papers agree that their toughest challenges are economic. "You can't have an independent press without a strong economy," says Marwan Abu Zafar, editor of *Al-Kuds*, the oldest and largest Palestinian paper.

So far, the PA offers Palestinians neither prosperity nor enough democracy, critics say. According to the World Bank, the Palestinian gross domestic product has plunged 38 percent since the Palestinian Authority began ruling Gaza and the West Bank. This is mostly because of the loss of jobs in Israel for Palestinians and repeated Israeli border closings. Officially, unemployment stands at more than 22 percent, with underemployment at 28 percent. Palestinian trade between Gaza and the West Bank has also declined sharply. Unemployment would be far higher if Arafat had not more than doubled the PA's civil-service rolls. With more than 50,000 workers, the PA is the area's largest employer.

Though Palestinian newspapers are relatively inexpensive, selling between NIS 1 and 1.5, they are

expensive for Palestinians, whose average per-capita income is now less than \$1,000.

Hanna Siniora, a veteran journalist who publishes *The Jerusalem Times*, a slender English-language weekly, and the *Palestine Business Report*, a monthly newsletter, says that his surveys showed that each newspaper sold had eight readers, on average.

While there are some 400 Palestinian journalists at newspapers, radio and television sta-

For Palestinian newspapers, censorship and intimidation have combined with soaring paper and printing costs to make publishing a risky venture.

tions. Amayreh estimates that no more than 20 are truly independent. Consequently, many Palestinians read about their government's abuses first in the Israeli press.

Most Palestinian reporters, he says, cannot afford to be bold, at least not in Arabic. "I get away with it because I write mainly in English," says Amayreh. Low salaries reinforce the political pressure. "The average journalist earns between \$400 and \$500 a month," he says. Such low wages make official bribes hard to resist.

Siniora complains about soaring costs. The price of paper has more than doubled in the last decade, he says, from \$300 a ton to \$750. New printing presses cost more than \$5 million, up from about \$500,000. His two English-language publications have a combined circulation of 4,200 and little advertising. "We're losing about \$10,000 a month," explains Siniora, who says he covers the deficit himself and with contributions from Palestinian businessmen.

The daily *Al-Kuds*, a 24-page color broadsheet, has a circulation of 50,000, more than double that of the two competing papers, *Al-Ayam* ("The Days"), which portrays itself as an independent paper, and *Al-Hayat al-Jadida* ("The New Life"), a semi-official paper with ties to the PA.

Because his newspaper is based in eastern Jerusalem, Abu Zafar of *Al-Kuds* must still submit to Israeli censors articles that affect security. But, he said, censorship became more relaxed when Yitzhak Rabin came to power; the Likud government has not reversed this policy.

Since *Al-Kuds* is also sold in the West Bank and Gaza, he also needs a license from the PA, with which he has already had several confrontations. In July 1994, the PA blocked the paper's distribu-

tion in Gaza for five days after he refused to print a low estimate of the number of participants at an opposition rally as Arafat's government had demanded. And the paper's night editor was detained for five days in 1995 by the PA's security service after he failed to place an article about the Greek patriarch's Christmas message to Arafat on the front page.

"Journalists should not be spoon-fed," says the British-educated Abu Zafar.

Al-Kuds features several pages of obituaries and notices of weddings and graduations. And about a year ago, it began devoting a full page to economic news, publishing, among other things, the weekly performance of the fledgling Palestinian stock exchange.

A litmus test of the Palestinian press's ability to handle controversy came in May, with the PA's arrest of Daoud Kuttab, an independent journalist whose television broadcasts of Palestinian legislative debates had irked Arafat.

Neither the semi-official *Al-Hayat* nor the supposedly independent *Al-Kuds* covered the arrest, though Abu Zafar says that *Al-Kuds* mentioned Kuttab's release. But *Al-Ayam*, which is sympathetic to Arafat, did cover the arrest, despite its political affiliations. So did *Al-Resalah* ("The Message"), a weekly

paper that prints 7,000 copies in Gaza and is affiliated with Hamas.

Al-Ayam, which published its first issue in December 1995, now prints 10,000 copies of a 20-page daily at spacious new offices in Ramallah, which house a new color press that cost more than \$3 million and was partly subsidized by France. Senior editors hope that it will turn a profit within five years.

"It's a good newspaper that has

While there are some 400 Palestinian journalists at newspapers, radio and television stations, it is estimated that no more than 20 are truly independent.

been deft in reporting on corruption, even though its editor, Akram Haniye, is Arafat's adviser," says

Danny Rubinstein, who writes about Palestinian affairs for the prominent Israeli daily *Ha'aretz*. *Al-Ayam*'s editors say that Arafat has no financial stake in the paper, which they say is backed by 15 Palestinian companies and businessmen.

Last year, *Al-Ayam* began home delivery in Ramallah, where 90 percent of Palestinian papers are sold on the street. Another innovation: a full page devoted to the Palestinian economy. To earn extra revenue, the paper prints textbooks for the Palestinian Authority, which Kuttab says is an indirect government subsidy that reinforces the paper's desire to maintain cordial relations with Arafat's team. "But perhaps because of the close ties between Haniye and Arafat, the paper is often bolder than others in what it feels it can cover," says Rubinstein.

The daily with the closest ties to Arafat, however, is *Al-Hayat al-Jadida*, whose \$60,000-a-month deficit is said to be covered by the PA, according to several Palestinian journalists who asked not to be identified. But of the three biggest papers — *Al-Ayam* and *Al-Hayat al-Jadida* in the West Bank and *Al-Kuds* in Jerusalem — only *Al-Kuds* is profitable. It made about \$100,000 last year, Abu Zafar says — 40 percent from circulation revenue and 60 percent from advertising.

(New York Times)

Not Page One

Spy vs. spies

By Sam Orbaum

I was a dangerous mission. No one volunteered. No one but me. Only a nut would spy on spies. So it had to be me.

I could've been really brave and staked out Jibril Rajoub's HQ. I took stock of my life and settled for the next best thing: the Shin Bet.

One morning recently, I drove up to a mysterious building. Somewhere in Israel, brazenly parked right outside the front door, unsheathed my trusty old Parker and, well, this is what I witnessed...

10:20: Stake-out begins. Targeted building is nondescript: bars on the windows, a wall, a fence, a gate with an intercom. Could be any place, anywhere. No name on the gate.

Four garbage bins stand innocently outside. I slip out of the car, look left, look right, and peek into them. I make a note of the smell (smelly). The contents: remains of food; an empty diaper package (but of course! Who would suspect a baby agent? Besides, they're impossible to interrogate), bits and pieces of garden-variety detritus. And pay dirt: a large pink bag full of cross-shredded paper. If I had the guts I'd scoop it out and pack it into the car. I don't have the guts.

10:22: Getting restless. Nothing happening. The neighbors: what's it like to live across the street from a spy agency? They've put up a high wall for privacy. Obviously. All the trissim are closed — except for one. Great place to plant a double agent to surveil the Shin Bet.

10:24: Something's happening! Behind the wall, a man — gray-haired, grim-looking, mid-50s — crosses the grounds from right to left, disappears. Aha.

again, asks what I'm doing there. I remind him. He smiles. That worries me. Then he says, "Someone will be here shortly to ask you a few questions." Good. I got a couple questions myself.

10:57: Long-haired skinny man comes out with three bags of garbage. Food garbage. Busty blonde lopes by, he makes gurgling noise at her, she nods back. They are acquainted.

10:58: Skinny man helps bring in food from van. Picks up large plastic container. Busty guy says: "Careful, it's hot soup." Aha. So the Shin Bet eats soup for lunch.

11:00: Young, clean-cut man comes to say hello. Shows me his police ID card. Agent Y (not his real name) explains they're not very happy about me being there. No kidding. "We're doing vital work, you understand. I can't stop you from sitting here, but I wouldn't want you to compromise our need for secrecy; I wouldn't want anyone in this building hurt by what you write."

He's earnest, direct, affable. Makes me feel like a putz. I assure him my intentions are harmless. He says he trusts *The Jerusalem Post*. Doesn't read it, though (crosses my mind to offer him a subscription discount). I figure what the hell, ask him some questions. Sonofagun, he answers them: the building belongs to the Ministry of Defense. Corroborating my info, this is, he reveals, the Shin Bet. Antiterrorism HQ. I pretend not to be impressed, coolly ask to be let in. He smiles, says he thought I'd ask, says no. (I presume because they're getting ready for lunch.) We shake hands.

11:07: Gray-haired man emerges

10:49: Hear a noise from the building. A man, clearing his throat. Could be he's a spy passing a coded message. Or maybe he just has to clear his throat.

10:26: Gray-haired man reappears. Crosses the grounds from left to right. Not sure why.

10:29: The door opens! The door opens! Plump young woman exits. White blouse, black bag. Gets into red car. Drives away. A spy? Could be.

10:31: Large bee tries to penetrate fence. Can't. Makes you wonder, no?

10:32: Plumper woman, 40s, black blouse, red pants, exits. Turns right, walks down the street. Out to snare an arch-enemy of the state? Could be.

10:33: Lady, pink blouse, approaches along the sidewalk. A prisoner is chained to her. Sorry. It's a dog. She passes. Could be a neighbor walking her dog. Or a spy dressed like a neighbor walking her dog.

10:34: Two men, 30s, wearing kippot, exit. One of them (white short-sleeved shirt) looks at me. Yikes! I am noticed. He turns right. I glance through my rear-view mirror (good thing I brought that along). He looks at me again. Could be a spy. Could be he's thinking the same about me.

10:35: Plumper lady returns: still in her 40s, still with the black blouse and red pants, but now carrying something... something white. Could be yogurt. God, I love this work!

10:36: Balding man in green shirt exits. Does not turn left or right. Comes to me. Gevalt, lotta people coming in and out of there. Seems there's a problem. Me. "I spoke with my supervisor, and he asked me to ask you to leave. [Wait a minute. Didn't he admit earlier that he can't force me to leave?] You're not allowed to be here. I'm sorry, if you don't leave I'll have to call the police to remove you." I decide it's better not to piss off both the Shin Bet and the police. I rev up the ol' Renault (it starts, thank God), we shake hands again. Analyzing the situation, I figure out why I'm sent away: they need the parking space.

11:26: The jig is up. I drive off, mission accomplished. I leave, confident the Jewish State is in good hands.

10:46: Cat emerges from north end of compound. Looks left, looks right. Suspicious. Yawns. Hops back into compound.

10:50: White van pulls up, parks in front of me. License plate 57-399-07 (not the real number). I figure this is it, the back doors are gonna open and they're gonna blow me outta there. Nice and neat. Sure enough, back doors open. No howitzers or missile launchers. Melons, apricots, trays of hot food. Hmm. Could be spies are getting hungry. (So am I, but they don't invite me.) Busty guy, jeans, black T-shirt, shleps food into building.

10:51: Busty guy (definitely a hit man) exits with scowling man in green shirt. Green shirt comes to me

with two bags of garbage. Lady enters. Busty guy and skinny man exit. Grayhair enters. With all this coming and going, I could've slipped in unnoticed. An idiot I'm not.

11:08: Skinny, burly drive off in van. Could be they're spies. Or caikers.

11:09: Cop car approaches. I am sweating. Cop car passes. Sweat dries up.

11:12: Man in uniform exits. With more garbage. (Whatever else they do here, they produce a lot of garbage.)

11:14: Pretty woman, blue dress, enters. Could be she's one of those sexy lures you see in spy movies. Maybe she's been assigned to entice me to a secluded spot. (Now I really wish I'd had the car washed.)

11:15: Black Toyota, 39-467-88, parks. (Not the real color, make, or license number.) Man gets out. Whirly, funny; dark specs, black *nik jembond*. Can't be a spy: looks too much like he's trying to look like one.

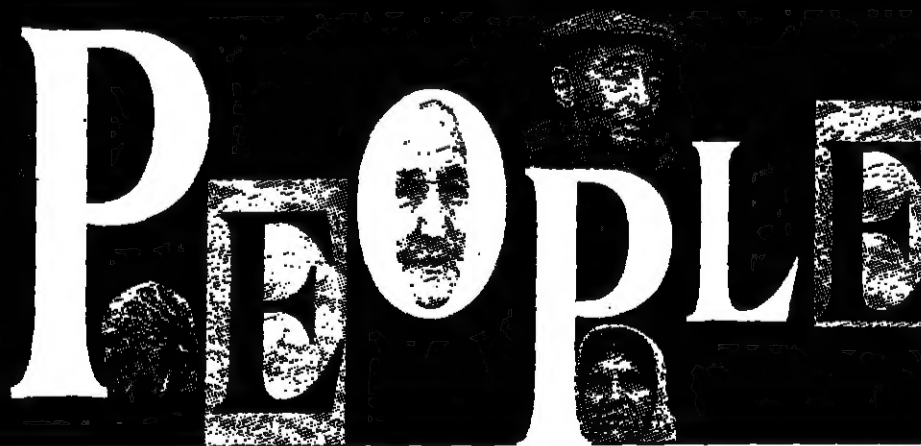
11:19: Oriental man, 70s, with bleached-blond woman, mid-50s, enter. They look like a normal, everyday Israeli couple. Maybe they are.

11:21: Balding husky man with *nik jembond*, plus young man, blue polo shirt, carrying nothing, enter. Interesting.

11:22: Agent Y exits building. My pal. I say, "Jeez, lotta people coming in and out of there. Seems there's a problem. Me. "I spoke with my supervisor, and he asked me to ask you to leave. [Wait a minute. Didn't he admit earlier that he can't force me to leave?] You're not allowed to be here. I'm sorry, if you don't leave I'll have to call the police to remove you." I decide it's better not to piss off both the Shin Bet and the police. I rev up the ol' Renault (it starts, thank God), we shake hands again. Analyzing the situation, I figure out why I'm sent away: they need the parking space.

MEMO TO the enemy — if you're reading this, you know who you are. Do not attempt to locate said building: it is carefully camouflaged to look like a typical Israeli apartment block. Do not attempt to identify anyone mentioned in this report: it is hopeless. They are all carefully camouflaged to look like typical Israelis. Do not attempt to kidnap and/or torture me: I am writing this under an assumed name, the photo at the top is fake, and in any case, you cannot make me talk. Well, certainly not in Arabic. This page will self-destruct in five seconds. Four... three... two... one...

END TRANSMISSION



come in different shapes and sizes

...the long and the short and the tall and they come with different talents and ambitions, and they come rich and poor and mostly in between. And some come, usually through no fault of their own, disadvantaged.

That's where we come in.

For nearly fifty years, readers of The Jerusalem Post, both in Israel and in some 100 countries around the world have been sending money to help those less fortunate. The Forsake-Me Not fund, together with social workers and volunteers in the field, use your donations to help old folks living in distressed circumstances.

With your help we've been able to alleviate suffering and provide a little hope.

Help us to help people by sending a contribution today to:

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The Jerusalem Post, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem 91000, Israel
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Together, we shall overcome.

SPORTS

in brief

FIFA urge suspension of top Australian club

SYDNEY (Reuters) - FIFA has urged Soccer Australia to suspend top club Sydney United for taking the domestic governing body to court in a bid to avoid possible axing from the national league because of crowd trouble.

In a letter released by Soccer Australia on Friday, the sport's world body said United should be barred from competition until they drop their current court case.

In a message released on Friday by Soccer Australia, FIFA said: "We herewith urge you (SA) to immediately suspend club Sydney United until they withdraw their complaint in the Supreme Court."

By winning an injunction last week, United prevented Soccer Australia from taking disciplinary action over crowd violence at a national league match in May.

Soccer Australia reported United's action to FIFA as a breach of its international statutes banning clubs from taking a national association to court.

Dutch soccer players axed for alleged group sex

AMSTERDAM (AP) - Soccer club Telstar has fired four players who allegedly had sex with a 15-year-old girl during a pre-season training camp, the Dutch media reported Friday.

The girl, who was not named, did not report the incident to police and no criminal charges have been filed against any of the players.

"Whether this was consensual or not, our reputation has been sullied. That's what this is about," Telstar chairman Jan de Wit told the Dutch daily *Algemeen Dagblad*.

The legal age of consent in the Netherlands is 16. The players, Benito Cooman, Ray Inge, Dave Kuysten and Orpheo Nok, allegedly all had sex with the girl in a car parked outside the team's hotel on July 26.

Pavarotti backs Rome 2004 bid

ROME (Reuters) - World-renowned Italian tenor Luciano Pavarotti has thrown his considerable weight behind Rome's bid to stage the 2004 Olympic Games.

Pavarotti will travel to Lausanne, Switzerland, for the International Olympic Committee's vital meeting on September 5, when the successful candidate will be announced.

Rome is favored to win the bid, ahead of Athens, Cape Town, Stockholm and Buenos Aires.

"It will be an honor to go to Lausanne," Pavarotti said after accepting an invitation from Italian Sports Minister Walter Veltroni.

Pavarotti, along with Spanish tenors Placido Domingo and Jose Carreras, helped popularize opera with a concert in Rome's third century Baths of Caracalla during the 1990 soccer World Cup finals.

Linford Christie retires at last

ATHENS (AP) - He's been saying it for over a year and now he's finally done it. Former world and Olympic 100-meter champion Linford Christie said yesterday he had run his last race.

The 37-year-old sprinter, who has now turned to coaching, told the BBC that he had decided to retire from the track after finally losing the enthusiasm he once thrived on.

"I woke up this morning and felt I didn't miss the tension any more," Christie said in an interview.

"I thought to myself 'What's the point in carrying on?' I have decided that I won't be running again."

Christie, who won the Olympic title in Barcelona in 1992 and the

world championship at Stuttgart a year later, said in a tearful outburst on TV some 18 months ago that his retirement was imminent because he felt he did not get the credit he deserved from the British media.

His final appearance at the Olympics last year in Atlanta, where he was defending his title, ended in despair when he was disqualified for two false starts.

Christie at first refused to leave the track, disputing the calls. He decided to run in selected races this season but not in the World Championship.

His roles in Athens were as coach to British athletes Jamie Baulch and Darren Campbell and Jamaica's Juliet Cuthbert and also giving an expert analysis for the BBC.



UNDER PRESSURE - Springbok Russell Bennett (No. 15) tries to intercept a pass by New Zealand All Black Taine Randall in the Tri Nations match at Eden Park, Auckland yesterday.

All Blacks sink spirited Springboks 55-35

AUCKLAND (Reuters) - The All Blacks overwhelmed the Springboks 55-35 in a hard-fought Test match at Eden Park yesterday, claiming their win by a record margin with a rollicking display of rugby.

In a fast and action-packed game, New Zealand outscored the South Africans by seven tries to five to tighten their grasp on the Tri-Nations championship.

It was the highest score an All Blacks side has ever posted against South Africa and the largest winning margin.

But it was the underdog Springboks who drew first blood when just two minutes into the game

they engineered a powerful rolling maul to send flanker Ruben Kruger in for the first try.

The lead changed hands regularly in the first half as each team vied for dominance in a blistering, often violent encounter. With three tries apiece there was little between the arch rivals at the break, the All Blacks ahead 23-21.

Two penalties early in the second spell widened the home side's lead, but it was a red card offence by South African loose forward Andre Venter which swung the match decisively in New Zealand's favor.

Venter was sent off 10 minutes into the second half for stomping on All Black captain Sean

Fitzpatrick's face while he was on the ground in a ruck.

The Springboks were forced to play the remaining 30 minutes with only 14 men, and the All Blacks took full advantage, piercing their weakened opponents' defence to score four more tries.

The Springboks staged a spirited rally as full-time neared, crossing twice, but their fate had already been sealed.

The win puts the All Blacks firmly in control of the Tri-Nations series, and only Australia now have any chance of wresting the championship from them.

Strang spins Kent to top of the table

LONDON (Reuters) - Zimbabwe leg-spinner Paul Strang produced a telling spell of four for 36 in 10 overs to bowl Kent to the top of the English county championship yesterday.

Strang finished with five for 119 from 36 overs as Kent beat Essex by an innings and eight runs on the fourth and last day at Canterbury.

Essex, following on 369 behind, were dismissed for 361, to which their captain Paul Prichard contributed an outstanding 224.

Prichard had made 171 out of the overnight 277 for five, and continued to battle almost single handedly as

Strang worked through the lower order. The Essex opener, batting with a runner because of hamstring problems, was finally pried out by fast bowler Martin McCague, having faced 395 deliveries and hit 35 fours.

Kent's win lifted them from third to first in the championship on 171 points from 12 matches. Second-placed Glamorgan, who were not involved in the current round of fixtures, have 159 points from 11 games.

Gloucestershire, third on 158 points after 12 games, were denied victory by Somerset last pair Graham Rose and Kevin Shine, who survived the final

37 balls to face a draw at Taunton. Somerset, set 277 to win in a minimum of 45 overs, collapsed to 38 for six before all-rounder Rose put a good batting ploy in perspective with a chanceless 67 not out off 120 balls.

Rose found an effective ally in Pakistan leg spinner Mushtaq Ahmed, the pair adding 65 for the seventh wicket as Somerset edged to safety at 138 for nine.

Another Pakistan Test slow bowler, off-spinner Saqlain Mushtaq, captured five for 111 as Surrey beat Durham by nine wickets at The Oval. Saqlain had match figures for 10

for 128, but his success was tempered for Surrey by the Pakistan Cricket Board's insistence that he return home for a one-day tournament next month.

At Lord's, five wickets from ex-England seamer Angus Fraser, preceded by South African Jacques Kallis's second century of the season, off 148 deliveries, helped Middlesex to a 217-run win over Hampshire.

Kallis (102 not out) and Mike Gatting (69 not out) took Middlesex's second innings to 178 for one declared to leave Hampshire 315 to win.

Mets get Rojas, Wendell, McRae from Cubs for Johnson

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The New York Mets have traded veteran center fielder Lance Johnson and two players to be named to the Chicago Cubs in exchange for relievers Mel Rojas and Turk Wendell and centre fielder Brian McRae.

New Mets general manager Steve Phillips, who was promoted when Joe McIlwaine was demoted on July 16th, faced criticism for failing to engineer a deal before the July 31st waiver trading deadline to help a struggling bullpen.

But Phillips was able to add two relievers from the Cubs with Friday's deal.

"We are committed to making a run for the playoffs," Phillips said.

"Brian McRae will do a good job in centerfield, and Mel Rojas and Turk Wendell lighten the burden on Greg McMichael as the setup man."

Johnson, who has been bothered by shin splints this year, is 34. Rojas, who struggled in the first half of the season but has been pitching well lately, is 30. McRae is 29 and Wendell is 30.

In another move on Friday, the San Francisco Giants claimed left-hander Terry Mulholland off waivers from the Cubs.

Mulholland, who began his career with the Giants and joins them for the third time, had signed a one-year, \$2.3 million free agent deal with the Cubs before the season.

National League					American League				
East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB	East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	73	44	.624	-	Baltimore	70	40	.638	-
Florida	67	47	.588	4 1/2	New York	66	46	.589	5
New York	65	49	.570	6 1/2	Boston	57	59	.488	18
Montreal	58	55	.512	12	Toronto	54	58	.482	17
Philadelphia	38	75	.336	33	Detroit	53	59	.473	18
Central Division					Central Division				
Houston	61	55	.526	-	Cleveland	57	53	.518	-
Pittsburgh	57	60	.487	4	Minnesota	55	57	.491	3 1/2
St. Louis	53	62	.461	7 1/2	Chicago	54	58	.482	4 1/2
Cincinnati	48	65	.425	11 1/2	Minnesota	50	63	.442	9
Chicago	47	69	.405	14	Kansas City	47	65	.420	11 1/2
West Division					West Division				
San Francisco	65	51	.560	-	Anheim	65	49	.570	-
Los Angeles	63	52	.548	1 1/2	Seattle	64	49	.565	1
Colorado	55	62	.470	10 1/2	Texas	53	61	.465	12
San Diego	54	61	.470	10 1/2	Oakland	45	71	.388	21

Thursday's NL games: NY Mets 12, Colorado 4; Philadelphia 5, Houston 5; 11 innings; Pittsburgh 5, Florida 1; Chicago Cubs 6, San Francisco 3; Cincinnati 7, San Diego 0; Atlanta 3, St. Louis 0; Los Angeles 9, Montreal 4.

Friday's NL games: Chicago Cubs 3, San Diego 1; San Francisco 4, Montreal 0; Los Angeles 10, Cincinnati 5; NY Mets 6, Houston 1; Florida 6, Atlanta 4; St. Louis 6, Philadelphia 1; Colorado 5, Pittsburgh 3.

Thursday's AL games: Detroit 8, Kansas City 4; Oakland 5, Milwaukee 4; 13 innings; Toronto 4, Cleveland 0; Boston 7, Minnesota 6; NY Yankees 4, Texas 2; Seattle 3, Chicago White Sox 2; Friday's AL games: Boston 8, Kansas City 2; Texas 6, Cleveland 5.



Galilee hills alive with the sound of martial arts

The sounds reverberating through the Upper Galilee hills during the past week were unusual for the pastoral setting of the settlements around the northern borders, no it wasn't only katushas which fell. The shouts and yells of the practitioners of Salsbo Ki Do were very much in evidence as some 800 sportsmen and women, boys and girls gathered in Kibbutz Kfar Giladi's gymnasium for a week-long seminar and evaluation in this martial art form. Pupils from all walks of life and all communities, Druse, Beduin and Moslem, as well as Jews, ranging in ages from 4 1/2 to 50, with ranks going all the way up to third-dan black belt, arrived for the seminar given by English seventh dan, John Judge, who is one of the world's leading practitioners in the sport. Judge was assisted at the seminar by Israeli fifth dan, Danny Hazan, at some stages would lecture a class of over 200 who sat spellbound in total silence. The seminar ends today.

(Text and photo: Lionel Gaffney)

Williams look for morale-boosting win in Hungary today

BUDAPEST (Reuters) - Williams, triumphant at the Hungarian Grand Prix 12 months ago, need to win again at the Hungaroring today - but for contrasting reasons.

Last year, the standard-setting Renault-powered Williams team arrived in Budapest wanting just two points for a record-equaling eighth constructors' championship title.

Canadian Jacques Villeneuve won the race and Briton Damon Hill finished second. Williams won the teams' championship and went on to add the drivers' title when Hill clinched his personal success at Suzuka in Japan.

This time, with Ferrari leading the constructors' title race, Williams need victory to boost

morale and keep their ambitions alive.

So a repeat win by Villeneuve would be the ideal result on one of the slowest and most difficult tracks of the year.

"I've got some very good memories from last year so I am looking forward to going back to Hungary," said Villeneuve, whose run of only two victories in seven races has allowed not only Michael Schumacher, but Ferrari to take command of the championship.

"The car should be good on this track. And that will make it very interesting for us. We have that will make it very interesting for us. We have struggled a bit this year on the circuits with very high speeds and fast corners, but this is different. There are some tricky corners and it is very difficult to get a good lap because it is a very

physical place and it will be easy to race. Overtaking is a problem - so qualifying will be especially interesting this time."

Since he recorded the team's 100th victory in Formula One at the British Grand Prix in July, both Villeneuve and Williams have struggled to convince most observers that they retain the competitive edge which set them apart from the rest last year and earlier this season.

Villeneuve's Williams team mate Heinz-Harald Frentzen has also struggled and in recent races, while Williams have laboured to stay in touch with Ferrari, Benetton have responded by bouncing back to their best form.

Austrian veteran Gerhard Berger's emotional victory in the German Grand Prix at

Hockenheim two weekends ago has raised Benetton morale and prompted talk of a late challenge for the title.

"They could be the team we have to watch more than Williams now," said German Schumacher. "But I expect them to bounce back."

Williams, having lost race engineer David Brown and chief designer Adrian Newey to McLaren in the last year, and enduring the pressure of the ongoing Ayrton Senna trial at Imola, have found it difficult to maintain their momentum.

The impending loss of Renault as a partner at the end of the year and the involved preparations required for the 1998 technical regulations

have also contributed to the team's loss of form.

But in recent years, Williams have enjoyed racing at the Hungaroring where, in 1992, Nigel Mansell clinched his world title and where, in 1993, Hill claimed his first win.

In both 1995 and 1996 they enjoyed one-two finishes and a similar result this year would help banish worries over the team's stuttering form.

But Schumacher and Ferrari are likely to be as strong as ever on the 3.968-kms track just north of the Hungarian capital and a fierce qualifying battle is in prospect.

Sports Editors: Joseph Hoffman and Ori Lewis

ISRAELI SHARES
IN NEW YORK

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WALL STREET REPORT

Dow falls 156 points

NEW YORK (AP) — An

avalanche of profit-taking sliced

more than 150 points off the Dow

Jones industrial average Friday as

interest rates soared again in a

bond market suddenly stricken

with inflation jitters.

On Wall Street, the Dow fell

about 156.78 points to 8,031.22 —

a drop of 1.9 percent — recovering

from a loss of nearly 212 points

that briefly put the famed market

broader below the 8,000 mark.

CRITICS' CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The Israel Music Institute summer program participants present a concert of Viennese operatic arias tonight (8) at the Israel Music Conservatory in Tel Aviv. On Tuesday (8) at the Jaffa Music Center, they present an evening of highlights from musicals.

The Keshet Eilon summer violin courses reach their finale with a gala concert tonight (8:30) at the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center. Faculty and participants will share the stage, with the highlight being the premiere of a new work by Israeli composer Oded Zehavi.

TELEVISION

ELANA CHIPMAN

The French Arte Channel (42) is dedicating a special evening tonight to Elvis Presley on the 20th anniversary of his death. Elvis was a rebel, a sex symbol, and the undisputed king of rock 'n' roll, who to this day still moves millions of fans. The evening will begin at 9:45 with a documentary *The Rise and Fall of the King of Rock 'n' Roll*. To be followed at 11:20 by one of Elvis's films *Wild in the Country* (1961), where he plays a hot-headed country boy from a broken home, with literary aspirations.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★★ PRIVATE PARTS - Based on the autobiography of the nude, crude New York radio personality, Howard Stern, Betty Thomas's film is one of the more entertaining bits of celebrity self-aggrandizement to surface in a long time. Actually, the movie - which stars Stern as himself - works by means of a clever blend of self-love and self-mockery, as it also further develops the tricky *trompe-l'oeil* technique that he has perfected on his WNBC radio show. To hear Stern tell it, no subject is off limits for on-air discussion. His improvised banter appears to be brutally honest and totally intimate, and his massive public appeal is based on the fact that his honesty knows no bounds. While such total frankness is a fine claim to fame, it is, of course, not true. Stern's straight-talking, wise-cracking radio persona is just that - a persona. And if there's one thing that his inspired movie debut



One of composer Oded Zehavi's new works will be premiered by Keshet Eilon faculty and students tonight.

makes clear it's that he is, above all, a fantastic actor, a man who has cast himself in the part of soul-bearing vulgarism and thoroughly mastered the role. Featuring a blend of actors and real-life media personalities, as themselves. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Children under 17 not admitted without an adult.)

★★★★ A SELF-MADE HERO - Jacques Audiard's film begins with the small, funny story of a provincial French boy with a lively imagination and evolves gradually into a sharply pointed allegory about memory, fantasy and the dubious legacy of the Vichy government. Not that the movie grows somber and preachy as its historical implications open out. Hardly. With real comic aplomb, Mathieu Kassovitz plays a charming pathological liar, a young man who leaves home on the eve of the Liberation and creates for himself a fictional identity as a former hero of the Resistance. The movie manages an unusual blend of caustic humor and serious political commentary. Winner of the best screenplay award at the 1996 Cannes Film Festival. (French dialogue, English and Hebrew subtitles. Not recommended for children)

TV

CHANNEL 1

6:30 News flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel
8:00 World Track and Field Championships

EDUCATIONAL TV

10:30 The Intrepid
11:00 A Line of Love Time
11:25 Hot Science
12:10 A.J., Time Traveler
13:00 Cartoons
15:15 The Story of David Abee-Dead Alee - English program

CHANNEL 1

15:30 Zappy Wave
15:35 Denver, the Last Dinosaur
15:50 Duda's Adventures
16:00 Heartbreak High
16:15 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
16:59 A New Evening
17:35 News in English
17:45 World Track and Field Championships - 20:00 News
20:45 World Track and Field Championships
21:40 To Death: The Assassination of Lord Mordred - Documentary, filmed partly in Cairo, features an interview with Lord Mordred, one of the central figures behind the operation
22:30 Rhodie - part 5
22:30 News
00:00 A Glimpse at Mt. Carmel

CHANNEL 2

8:15 Today's programs
8:20 News in Arabic
8:25 News in Hebrew
8:35 The Morning Show
9:00 Rima Michaeli
9:55 Senora
10:10 International Jewish Identity Quiz - part 2: From Basel to Jerusalem
11:42 Enchanted
12:35 Jenny and the Captain
13:00 Plutus
13:10 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
14:00 Degassi Junior High
14:30 The Ties
14:50 The Flintstones
15:25 Mad Men
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Different Driving
17:00 News magazine
17:30 Click
18:00 Roseanne
18:35 Dave's World - new season
19:00 Lohi Money (pt)

CHANNEL 2

19:30 News in Russian
20:00 News
20:30 Wheel of Fortune
21:35 Chicago 7
22:35 Poetics of the Masses
23:16 Documentary Box
00:00 News
00:05 Young Frankenstein (1974) - hilarious parody of horror movies with Gene Wilder, Peter Boyle, Marty Feldman and Madeline Kahn. Directed by Mel Brooks
2:05 Midnight Blues
3:08 On the Edge of the Sheet

JORDAN TV

(unconfirmed)
15:30 Holy Koran
15:35 French programs
16:05 America's Home Videos
16:30 Energy Express

CHANNEL 3

17:15 American Chart Show
18:00 French programs
19:00 News in French
19:30 News headlines
19:35 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
20:00 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema
20:30 National Geographic
21:10 Renegade
22:00 News in English
22:30 One West Walkid
23:15 Sisters

MIDDLE EAST TV

10:30 Changed Lives
11:00 Ministry
11:30 Hour of Power
12:00 Cinema Message
13:00 Love Worth Finding
14:00 This Is Your Day
14:30 John Osteen
15:00 In Touch
15:35 Second Step
16:55 Werhona
17:20 The A-Team
18:10 Hunter
19:00 Lou Grant
19:50 Benjamin Steele
20:40 Hill Street Blues
21:30 Water Rats
22:30 Rhodie
23:00 The Wheel
23:30 First Flight

CABLE

ITV 3 (33)

16:00 News
16:15 Playing With Fire - new Arabic series
16:30 Cinema: Fanny and Tanik Shawid
17:05 Weekly Column
18:00 The Tyrant - series about an Arab with Hebrew subtitles
18:00 News in Arabic
18:50 Video Clips
20:00 News
20:45 Telekessel
21:15 Blah Blah
22:30 Crash Meetings
23:00 Ray Bradbury Theatre

ETV 2 (23)

16:30 Jake and the Kid
16:35 Holy Science (pt)
17:10 A.J., Time Traveler (pt)
18:00 Cystennet
18:30 Driving in the Red Sea
19:00 Through Our
19:30 Via & Vis
20:00 A New Evening
20:30 Destinos
21:00 The Obedient Lion
21:30 The Four Elements (Portuguese) - four films in one, each by a different director, with interpretations of the Aristotelian elements of earth, air, fire and water
22:00 Family Matters
12:35 Animatrix
13:30 Hugo
14:00 Chiquities
14:50 Little Mouse
15:05 Honey Bee
15:40 Dennis the Menace
16:20 What a Mess
16:50 Freshkiss
17:10 Ren & Stimpy
17:30 The Tick
18:00 Family Matters
18:25 Animatrix
18:45 Hot-Air Balloon
19:00 Hugo
19:30 Three's Company
20:00 Renaissance
21:10 Cosby Show
21:35 Different World

SECOND SHOWING (9)

22:00 Sang of Pousiere (French, 1992) - drama about a

17:15 American Chart Show

18:00 French programs
19:00 News in French
19:30 News headlines
19:35 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
20:00 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema
20:30 National Geographic
21:10 Renegade
22:00 News in English
22:30 One West Walkid
23:15 Sisters

20:55 Channel 3 on 1

21:40 Friends
22:05 E.R.
23:00 Seinfeld
23:25 Babylon 5
00:10 The Streets of San Francisco
1:05 Barney Jones

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Story of Boys and Girls (Italian, 1991) - a slice of life centering on an engagement party
13:05 Seeing Stars - behind the scenes of Seinfeld
13:55 A Change of Place (1994) - a supermodel and her cover trade magazine
15:25 Hog Wild (1990) - a group of teenagers get their revenge on a mean motorcycle gang
16:50 The Untouchables (1960) - a girl undergoing rehabilitation is accused of murdering her boyfriend
18:00 Three and One (Hebrew, 1974) - drama about an aging war hero who deserts his family and lives with a young woman in Eilat. With Assi Dayan, Uri Levy and Yona Eli
20:25 Betrayed, the Story of Three Women (1995) - a woman deserts her husband and has an affair with his best friend's husband. With Meredith Baxter, David Duchovny, and David Hyde Pierce
22:00 The Set Up (1995) - a reformed thief becomes an alarm-systems expert and finds himself in a web of deceit
23:35 Charity Lane (1994) - a Steel Magnolias-type film about seven childhood friends in Colorado. With Helen Slater, Talea Shree, and John Williams
11:45 Rapa Nui (1994) - Americanized story of the search for Easter Island. With Jason Scott Lee (50 mms.)

CHILDREN (8)

8:30 Cartoons
9:10 Journey to the Heart of the Earth
9:40 Dennis the Menace
10:20 What a Mess
10:50 Freshkiss
11:10 Ren & Stimpy
11:30 The Tick
12:00 Family Matters
12:35 Animatrix
13:30 Hugo
14:00 Chiquities
14:50 Little Mouse
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20:00 Renaissance
21:10 Cosby Show
21:35 Different World

EUROSPORT

8:00 Athletics: World Championships
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NEWS

in brief

Psychologists ordered back to work

The government's arbitration board on Friday ordered striking psychologists back to work. The strikers' committee, which meets today, gave no immediate response. The Histadrut has already warned that it would oppose a back-to-work order. The strike by public service psychologists began about 12 weeks ago in demand of higher wages.

IMI to sell Uzis in US

Israel Military Industries Ltd. hopes to sell thousands of Uzi semi-automatic weapons to civilians in the US in the next few months, an official said last week. The company received permission last month from the US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to market versions of the Uzi and the Galil semi-automatic rifle after an 11-year US ban on the import of around 20 types of semi-automatic weapons in an attempt to cut violent crime. The weapons will be marketed under a joint venture with US gun manufacturer O.F. Mossberg & Sons.

US haredi compensated in jay-walking case

A haredi man accepted a \$7,000 settlement from the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, for being forced to violate the Sabbath. The 27-year-old Los Angeles resident decided to accept the settlement and cancel legal proceedings against the city. In September 1994, on his way home from services, he was detained by a policeman for crossing on a red light. The officer made him sit in the police car and sign the summons. Since he was not carrying a wallet because of the Sabbath, he had no identification. The cop told him if he did not sign the summons, he would be placed under arrest.

Study: Downtown Jerusalem hospital vital

An examination of the handling of victims from the Mahaneh Yehuda terror blasts has shown the importance of the existence of Bikur Holim Hospital in downtown Jerusalem, the hospital said yesterday. According to the study, conducted by Magen David Adom and security authorities, the first seven people who were wounded reached the hospital, located a few blocks from the market, within five minutes of the explosions.

During the past decade, there were a number of attempts to close down Bikur Holim as an efficiency measure, even though the rest of the capital's hospitals are several kilometers away from the center of town, where terror attacks have occurred.

Joint checking repaid wartime loans to Jews

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has decided to investigate whether it ever repaid all the European Jews who lent money during World War II to help with relief work and with clandestine rescue of Jews from Nazi-held areas. "Large numbers of loans were repaid during and after the war," Michael Schneider, the Joint's executive vice president, said Friday in New York. "However, it has come to our attention that some of those individuals who loaned money to JDC may not have come forward to be reimbursed or may have perished in the Holocaust," Schneider said. He said an independent committee chaired by Dr. Yitzhak Arad, former chairman of Yad Vashem, will probe the matter. Interest in reopening the case has apparently been stirred by recent probes into the status of dormant accounts held by Holocaust victims and survivors in Swiss banks.

"We have always done the right thing," Schneider said. "We intend

to continue to do so."

The investigation, Schneider added, will mean "revisiting the most painful episode in Jewish history, the genocide of our people and JDC's desperate efforts to save them."

The Joint has been credited with saving 400,000 Jews from the Nazis, by a clandestine network that operated alongside the provision of emergency food and medical supplies.

The so-called "Apres" program was documented in papers that were hidden by Professor Emmanuel Ringelblum, a resistance leader who perished in the Warsaw Ghetto.

As an American organization, the Joint was not allowed to transfer currency to Nazi-governed areas to finance its relief efforts, and borrowed from local Jews for whom the loans were a way of getting their money out of Europe.

Lenders were to be reimbursed when they reached safer turf. Many were, but the organization lost track of many files that were lost in the war along with many JDC personnel, the organization said.

Israeli Arab delegation arrives in Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) - Israel was making matters worse in the Middle East, the delegation of over 40 Israeli Arab leaders that is visiting Damascus told Syrian officials.

The delegation, which includes MKs, local council heads and journalists, was invited by Syrian President Hafez Assad and many of its members made clear their support for Syria's demand that Israel return the Golan Heights as part of a peace agreement.

"The visit comes within the framework of supporting the just Syrian stances aiming at achieving a just and comprehensive peace," said MK Abdel Wahab Darawshe (Democratic Arab Party).

The delegation, which will spend a week in Syria, was greeted at the airport early Friday by the mayor of Damascus. Later, the members

visited Syria's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, where MK Sallah Tarif (Labor) placed a wreath on the tomb.

"We are on the brink of an abyss on all fronts, especially on the military front, and there is a real danger for a war," he said. "But I am sure Netanyahu cannot continue using military might against the Arab world."

Also Friday the delegation visited the Martyrs Cemetery in Najha outside Damascus, the Ummayyad Mosque and the tomb of Saladin.

"This nation that offered this big number of honored martyrs will be able to defeat all its enemies," Palestinian poet Samih Kassim told reporters at the cemetery.

The delegation did not bring any official message from Israel.

"We only carry love and peace to our

brethren in Syria," Shfarim Mayor Ibrahim Nimr Hussein said.

The delegation will meet Assad, Foreign Minister Farouk Shara, and other senior officials, as well as leaders of opposition Palestinian groups.

Hussein said he hoped to persuade Assad to push for an Arab summit to put pressure on the Netanyahu government.

The delegates went via Cairo after obtaining temporary travel documents from the Syrian consul. This was necessary since Syria is technically still at war with Israel and refuses entry to Israeli passport holders.

The last such visit was in 1994 when a small Israeli Arab delegation arrived in Syria to pay their respects to Assad after his son Basil died in a car accident.



Leah Rabin visits market

Leah Rabin, the widow of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, gives a clock to Yisrael Salah, who was injured in the July 30 Mahaneh Yehuda bombing. During her visit to the market on Friday, Rabin, surrounded by a ring of police, was heckled by vendors and shoppers.

No deal yet on Nazi gold

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - The head of the US government task force on Nazi gold said on Friday that he hoped to persuade European nations to distribute some six tons of Nazi gold to Holocaust survivors, but that there was no agreement to do so yet.

Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs Stuart Eizenstat said that he was hoping to forge a common position by next week with Britain and France, which together with the US are members of a commission controlling distribution of the gold.

Once those three countries reach consensus, another dozen European nations would need to agree to renounce their claims to the gold, worth some \$68

million. "We're very pleased so far with the positive attitude that the British and French government have shown to try to deal with this contentious issue in ways that do justice to the victims," Eizenstat said.

But he denied a report from earlier in the week quoting sources close to the negotiations as saying that agreement to distribute the gold to survivors already had been reached.

"There has not yet been an agreement... We are evolving a position that we will hopefully be able to announce next week. But we do not have at this point consensus among the other countries who have a claim to it [the gold] as to what should happen to it," Eizenstat said.

Jewish US assemblyman indicted for fraud

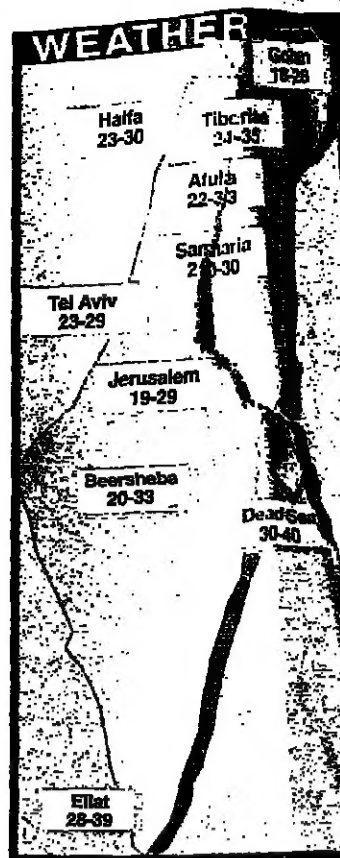
By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - New York State Assemblyman Dov Hikind, from Brooklyn, will be arraigned tomorrow in federal court on charges of fraud and misappropriating federal money.

The Borough Park Democrat, who has supported Republican officials in New York, denies the charges, claiming they are "baseless and politically motivated."

He was indicted Thursday on 36 counts, including misappropriation of federal funds, criminal conspiracy, fraud and corrupt solicitation. Some funds allegedly went toward school and camp tuition for his children and for family trips to Israel and France.

Hikind, 47, faces a maximum of 10 years in prison, if convicted. The charges against Hikind, who is Orthodox, the son of Holocaust survivors and formerly active in the Jewish Defense League, stem from charges filed last December against officials of the Council of Jewish Organizations (COJO) in Borough Park.



Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Drop in temperatures.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	
Amsterdam	16	21	clear
Berlin	17	21	cloudy
Buenos Aires	17	21	clear
Cairo	21	30	clear
Chicago	19	26	clear
Copenhagen	17	23	clear
Frankfurt	18	24	clear
Geneva	18	24	clear
Helsinki	14	21	rain
Hong Kong	24	30	cloudy
Jakarta	26	32	clear
London	17	23	cloudy
Los Angeles	22	30	cloudy
Madrid	19	26	cloudy
Moscow	17	23	clear
Montreal	11	17	cloudy
New York	19	26	clear
Nice	22	30	clear
Paris	19	26	clear
Rome	21	30	clear
Stockholm	15	21	clear
Sydney	11	17	clear
Tokyo	25	31	cloudy
Toronto	15	21	clear
Vienna	16	22	cloudy
Zurich	16	22	clear

Winning cards

In Friday's Chance drawing, the winning cards were the jack of spades, ten of hearts, queen of diamonds and king of clubs.

Clalit seeks license for insurance company

By JUDY SIEGEL

Kupat Holim Clalit has applied to the Insurance Commissioner for a license to set up an insurance company to handle its nursing insurance and other supplementary health insurance, as it doesn't want the profits to be funneled into private insurance companies.

Clalit's contract with Dikla, the Histadrut-affiliated insurance company that carries out its supplementary schemes, is due to expire at the end of this year.

Health fund director-general Dr. Yitzhak Peterburg said at a national seminar for insurance agents last week that the national health insurance system has many benefits, but that the difficulties are connected not with the law but the fact that "it isn't fully implemented by the government."

Peterburg noted the constant erosion of health taxes in comparison with the growth of medical care expenses.

The Health Ministry spokesman said it hadn't received any information about a Clalit request to set up an insurance company, but in any case, the ministry can't intervene in such a request as it has no authority to do so.

Peterburg attacked the private insurance companies for "carrying out a coordinated campaign" to transfer what little profits there are in the deficit-ridden health system to private companies and to hand out dividends to their shareholders.

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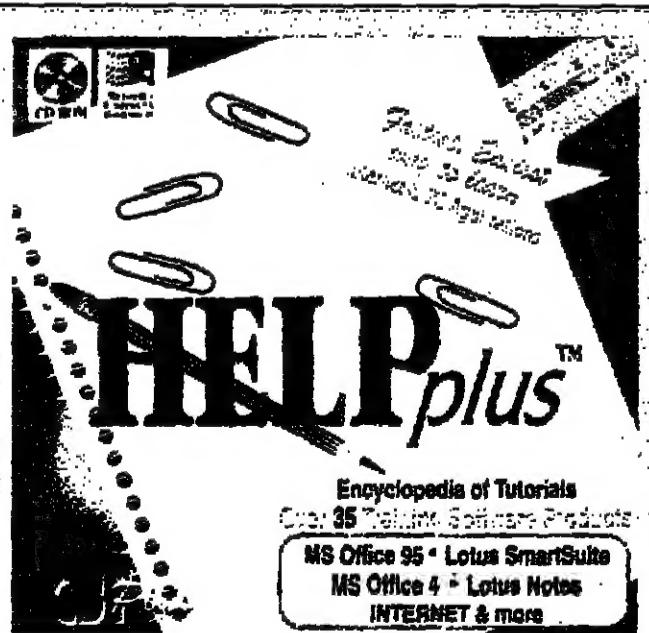
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